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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

FOREIGN affairs continue to be overshadowed by that uncertainty now so prevalent in Europe, and so damaging to the best interests of peace and commerce. The Conference speculated on some time since is as distant as ever; Germany is still agitated without being united; and in the South grave events are expected or reported from day to day. It seems hard to grudge to the Central Italians the amusements natural to their temperament and inspired by the unexpected dignity of their situation; but we should enjoy the accounts of Victor Emmanuel's progress much more, we do not say only if Savoy and Nice had not been part of the bill, but if his people were not so evidently cheering before they have got out of the wood. The King's position must be one of infinite anxiety; for, now that France is standing aloof from him, the most serious part of his work begins. The extreme party in all his States has never wished Italian independence to take its form from Monarchical influence; and, though fortunately kept under hitherto, that party's turn is likely to come now. A sharp opposition in the Sardinian Parliament will not be more embarrassing to his domestic than to his foreign policy; and, undoubtedly, his present interest is to have a time of quiet for the organisation of his internal Government and forces. But how is he likely to enjoy this when Sicily is in revolt from the contagion of his subjects' example, the revolt being aided (as is perhaps by this time certain) by the arms of Garibaldi? War with Naples may at any time be forced upon him, bringing its inevitable accompaniment of a war with the Papal forces. We have every confidence in the gallantry of himself and his army; and we need hardly say that the great mass of Englishmen would wish him well through a struggle with adversaries representing brutality and bigotry. But we can hardly hope for a fair fight in such a case. Victory or defeat would alike peril his position. The Catholic Powers will never allow him the kingship of Italy, nor tolerate, yet, the complete humiliation of the Pope. The French Emperor takes care to keep hanging over him the engagements of Villafranca, and never loses sight of the Bonapartist traditions in Naples. His Imperial Majesty has not yet had all his chestnuts out of the Southern fire; and the easy indifference of his Government to the early assembling of a Congress indicates a hope that something more may soon turn up in those regions. His zeal for liberty, then, would not be quite so readily believed in as it was last year; but, with Russia neutral, Austria helpless, and England motionless, it only requires a good revolu-

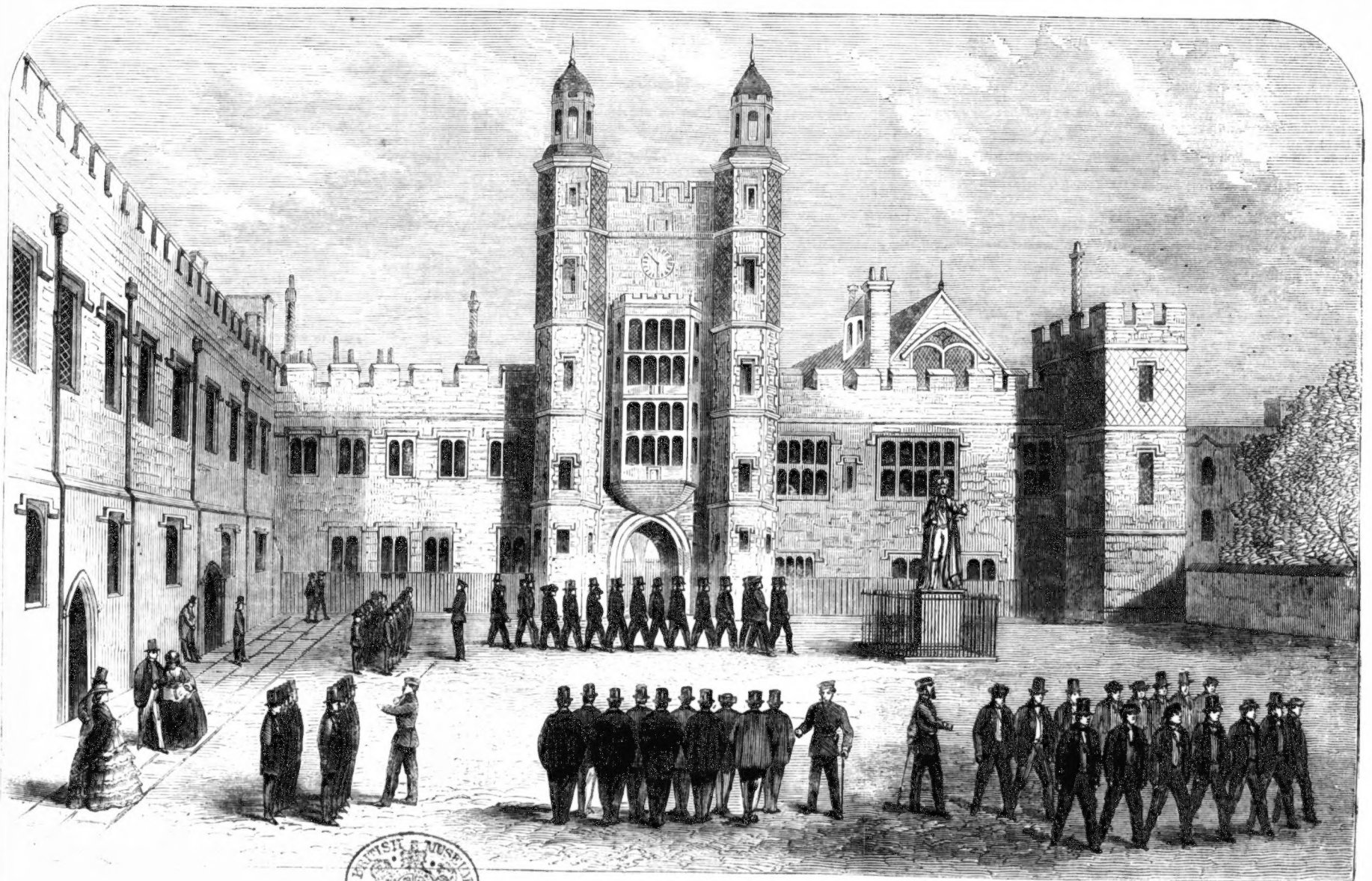
tionary shaking of the elements to make him master of the situation in the lower part of the peninsula. That he does not wish tranquillity in Europe is proved by his tolerating pamphlets like those of M. About. That writer is a kind of witty "fool" of the old stamp in the Imperial livery. His cap and bells protect him, but they also enable him to say things which are not meaningless because their form is eccentric, or because they would not be tolerated in graver persons.

The effect produced in England by all this is curious, and in many respects satisfactory to watch. It did seem as if, when the treaty was first broached, we were going, ostrich-like, to bury our heads in cotton bales, leaving our other end to be kicked by any military jackboot whose owner might be so disposed. But there are many symptoms of a reaction. First of all, the badness of the bargain is more seen through, and the haste with which it was drawn up is already requiring a Commission to improve it. Secondly, the attitude of the French Government seems no more pacific than it was, and we are not going to sell our voice in things European for the sake of cheaper wine and brisker markets. So, while France is treated with every civility, the country is not a whit less interested in the question of its arms and defences than it was three months ago. The Volunteer movement has prospered beyond the expectation of its warmest friends, and this very week has seen two more full discussions in Parliament of the state of the Navy—one opened by the illustrious Lyndhurst, a statesman of a school not to be matched either in the despotisms of the Continent or the democracy of America. The official statements drawn forth by this venerable Peer and by Sir Charles Napier on Tuesday enable us to complete more accurately our own observations on the subject in this Journal some time ago. Our steam fleet now afloat, it would appear, amounts to 50 sail-of-the-line, 37 frigates, 70 corvettes, 88 sloops, besides smaller vessels, and over 150 gun-boats. The French, as we ought to be ashamed to admit, are somewhat superior in frigates—a calculated and designed superiority we need not say, very significant to reflect on. Still, we stand far better than we did, on the whole, in point of ships. Now for the great matter of men. The ships in commission are said to be very tolerably manned, while the various bodies of reserves stand as follows:—Total Coastguard, 6862; Naval Coast Volunteers, 7000; new Naval Reserve, 1000. All these men are drilled, and the corps first named comprises some of the pick of the service. What is wanted is to increase the "Reserve" specially so called, the third body on

the list, the full success of which would insure the passage of great numbers of mercantile seamen through a course of drill and their liability to serve on an emergency. Meanwhile, though very far from having done all that we ought, we have done more than would readily have been believed in twenty years ago.

Compared with subjects like this, the Reform Bill is of little interest and, since we are bound to defend our Constitution even before improving it, of little importance. But we should be sorry to see a too cynical tone prevailing on the subject. Nothing relating to the institutions of our ancestors ought to degenerate into a bore; nor would it if men did not make a trade of the business of improving them. What is now called for is a moderate settlement of the question, not an evasion of it, for then it will come in an uglier shape next Session, but such a settlement as shall make any early subsequent agitation of it ridiculous. This can only be secured by a resolve among all the best friends of the Constitution to compromise their differences for the sake of peace. If Parliament, by throwing the question overboard, should cause popular discontent, it will be its own fault; for the agitation, now, such as it is, has been fanned by its own breath, and encouraged by its own stillness. A cross between the Derbyite and Russellite bills is, perhaps, the best result that can be hoped for in the present state of things. But, whether this be the form our legislation is likely to take or not, it is odd to observe how little people seem to expect in the way of change from its results. Nobody tells us that the measure will give representatives in any way essentially different from the present class. One would think, therefore, that the mere power to vote was a luxury *per se*; yet we do not find this notion confirmed by the experience of the larger class of constituencies.

While such abstract questions are daily discussed with more or less languor, two important events have passed off with less attention than they deserve. Lord Elgin has left for China; and the Irish have commenced a new "Exodus." It is possible that the Ambassador may be met on his way by the news of an act of concession from the Celestial Court; but, if not, we may expect a costly, and in many respects, a repulsive kind of war—a war from which no conquest is desired, and which we should not encourage beyond the bounds imposed on us by a harsh necessity. The quiet but deeply-important revolution which has begun again in our sister island is a subject which will soon vindicate to itself a great and general interest. Few will be



ETON SCHOOL DRILL.—(FROM A SKETCH BY H. CROFT.)

disposed to do ought but acquiesce in the movement of the Celtic people westward. All hope of a happy Celtic Ireland under English Government is, we fear, too late now; circumstances and the course of events seem to point her out more and more as the seat of English emigration in her turn. An English Ireland would be something different, indeed, from the land of the O'Connells and the Meaghers.

DRILL IN THE SCHOOL-YARD OF ETON COLLEGE.

The Volunteer movement has even inspired our schoolboys, and the sports of the playground have been banished and their place usurped by the drill sergeant. There is no doubt but that the scheme for a preliminary drill at public schools is a good one, and we believe its further development is at present under the consideration of the Government. The authorities of Eton College have taken the initiative in carrying out the plan proposed by Lord Elcho, and a cadet corps, which has received the title of the "Eton Companies," has been raised amongst the scholars. The corps consists of eight companies, of an average of fifty boys each, most of whom are exceedingly regular in their attendance at drill. Great credit is due to Sergeant Major Gubbins and the non-commissioned officers of the 2nd battalion of Grenadier Guards for the efficient manner in which they have imparted instruction, and the rapid progress made under their direction.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

M. de Budberg, the Russian Minister at Berlin, has arrived in Paris. The common form announcement that his journey is attributable entirely to private reasons, appears in the Government journals. It is impossible, however, to avoid remembering on this occasion that rumours have long been current of an alliance between France and Russia, founded upon a concession to the latter power of everything which the Crimean war was undertaken to prevent her from acquiring.

A splendid masked ball was given by the Emperor of the French last week at the Hôtel d'Albe. The Emperor appeared in a domino, as did the Empress, to the great disappointment of the company, as it had been reported that she would appear as Diana, the huntress. The affair was got up on the most magnificent scale, and the description of the different costumes and the scenery reminds one of the fables in the "Arabian Nights." It was said that several arrests took place on the evening of the ball in consequence of some plot having been discovered against the Emperor by Italians.

The *Pays* announces that the Grand Duke Nicholas of Russia will shortly arrive in Paris.

SPAIN.

Count Montemolin and his brother are reported to have proposed to recognise Queen Isabella. Another version is that the Queen will grant a general amnesty, including Count Montemolin and his brother, on condition that they take the oath of fidelity.

The official gazette announces that the treaty of peace between Spain and Morocco was signed on the 20th ult. Morocco is to pay the indemnity for the expenses of the war during the course of the year. Being desirous of regaining possession of Tetuan (where the Basque division of the Spanish army is to remain), she has decided to accelerate the time of payment.

Marshal O'Donnell was expected in Madrid on the 29th ult.

ITALY.

The "progress" of the King of Sardinia through his new territory continues to be marked by every demonstration of popular joy. It was thought that his Majesty would not visit the Romagna; but he did so, and was received with delight. The Pope had forbidden the Bishops in the Romagna to take part in the reception; nevertheless we read that at Bologna the King was received at the cathedral by the clergy, and that a "Te Deum" was performed.

The *Perseveranza* of Milan states that the Austrians are constructing a formidable bridge-head at Bogoforte, on the Po, not far from Mantua. The same paper states that General de Lamoricière arrived at Pesaro on the 24th ult.; that the town band had been ordered out to celebrate his arrival with music, but that most of the performers had remained away, for which neglect of obedience they had been thrown into prison.

The correspondent of the *Journal des Débats* in Rome, who had received orders to quit the city, has had a twenty days' respite granted to him; while General Goyon has reprimanded two French officers, who, in civil dress, seem to have taken part in the popular demonstrations on Garibaldi's name's day. These events are supposed to indicate an approach between the Holy See and the French Government.

AUSTRIA.

The new Legislative Council of State in Austria, the corner-stone of the whole constitutional building in course of erection, is, so the telegraph informs us, definitively created. It was to consist, as will be recollected, of members for life and of temporary members, the number of the latter being by far the larger, and we are now furnished with the names of nine of the members for life, just nominated by the Emperor; while of the thirty-eight temporary members simultaneously summoned, some names representative in the sense of the different nationalities are likewise given. Among the nine members for life, one—Cardinal Archbishop Rauscher, of Vienna—is to represent the connection between the State and the Catholic Church, in the same sense as our Bishops represent the Established Church in the House of Lords, and as the Cardinal Archbishop of Paris has a seat in the French Senate. The aristocracy of the Empire has received its share by the admission of the representatives of the Princely families of Schwarzenberg, Lichtenstein, and Auersberg. Count Hartig, a man of great administrative capacity, may be considered as the representative of the civil, and Field Marshal Degenfeld and General Haller as the representatives of the military branch of the public service. All these belong to the German element of Austria. The two next names are—the one Hungarian the other Slavonic—Count Apponyi (now Austrian Ambassador at the Court of St. James's) and Baron Soksevits. Among the thirty-eight temporary members, just created, are representatives of Hungary, Bohemia, and the Italian province. Baron Vay, who figures at the head of the first-named, is the lay-leader of the Hungarian Protestants, of late deputed by them to Vienna to effect a compromise with the Imperial Government concerning the re-establishment of the old constitution of the Protestant Church in Hungary. An Imperial decree for the settlement of Hungarian Protestant affairs has been published. This decree orders that the branch of the Ministry of Public Worship, which is to consist of evangelical coreligionists, shall be established immediately. This branch of the Ministry will provisionally consist of three councillors.

General Benedek has left Vienna for Pesth, after having, in an audience of the Emperor, secured detailed instructions. The General has since issued a rather threatening proclamation, as follows:—

As a faithful veteran, and as a native of Hungary, I will conscientiously carry out the benevolent intentions of the Emperor. Confidence is necessary to the successful development of the organisation of Hungary, and I will therefore, in the interest of the country, oppose with firmness and decision any attempt to disturb the minds of the people by means of demonstrations. I count on the co-operation of every man of honour in my efforts to serve and benefit my dear native country and the empire at large.

Austria is said to have proposed to Prussia an alliance, embodying a mutual guarantee of each other's territory, which proposition Prussia refuses to accept, as far as Venetia is concerned. The German newspapers contain allusions to such a proposition, but most of them treat the report as a fabrication.

The measure for the abolition of all Catholic interference with Protestant affairs in Austria is in full progress. A new autograph letter of the Emperor, dated the 26th, extends it to the army, which henceforward is to possess for this purpose Protestant military chaplains, residing at the respective centre places of the five great military divisions of the empire.

PRUSSIA.

The Berlin Cabinet is said to have addressed another circular despatch to the minor Governments of Germany warning them against the consequences of rejecting the proposal of an equal division of the German forces between Austria and Prussia. "In the plainest terms Freiherr von Schleinitz states the resolution of Prussia in no case, and in no emergency whatever, to subject her troops to the command of a General elected by the Federal Diet; or, what is tantamount to the same thing, in every case, and in every emergency, to lead her troops to the battle-field without taking the advice or obeying the directions of the minor Princes."

In a letter from Berlin dated April 27 we read:—"Uncertainty prevails here in politics. The negotiations between the different Cabinets continue. A wish is shown to settle the Swiss affair amicably, if possible, but they do not know exactly how to set about it. Prussia and England wish the proposed Conference to be held at Brussels. However, you may be sure that Switzerland will not conclude a separate treaty with France. If such a project ever was entertained it has been abandoned. The suicide of Baron Bruck is the exclusive topic of conversation. This tragic event throws a sad light upon the deplorable condition of Austria; and Prussia has been asked to link her destinies to that empire, falling into decay! We are asked to perform the part in Venetia which Russia performed in Hungary, to her cost. Every true Prussian would blush with shame if he thought his Government capable of concluding such a bargain. Conjecture is afloat respecting a visit paid yesterday to Sans Souci by the Archduchess Sophia of Austria, accompanied by the Queen Dowager and the Queen of Saxony. They arrived quite privately yesterday morning, and left the same night for Dresden. The Prince Regent did not meet them at Sans Souci, but he has gone there to-day."

TURKEY AND THE EAST.

The Grand Vizier Ruchdi is about to resign his post to Ali Pacha. Riza Pacha has caused the disgrace of Osman Pacha, Chief of the Palace, who in compensation has been appointed Marshal.

France and England have presented to the Porte a note claiming three millions of francs as indemnity for the massacres of Djedda.

The *Journal de Constantinople* officially denies a statement which appeared in the *Gazette de Genoa*, to the effect that steps have been taken by Piedmont to obtain from the Porte the recognition of the annexation of Central Italy.

The Duke of Brabant left Constantinople on the 30th ult. for Venice in an English steamer, which was offered to him by Sir Henry Bulwer.

The Shah is represented as busily engaged in completing the new organisation of the Persian army. The corps destined for Khorassan was to be composed of an effective force of 20,000 men. Sir Henry Rawlinson, the English Minister, who had only arrived in the country about a month, had applied for his recall on account of the state of his health. It had been hitherto the custom for the Shah on the first day of the year in Persia (March 1) to give sums of money to all the persons of his Court, and in order to procure the necessary funds an extraordinary tax was levied on the inhabitants. Nassu-eddin-Shah has just abolished this custom; and this decision, by lessening the burdens of the people, has produced a very favourable effect.

AMERICA.

The Washington correspondent of the *New York Herald* says:—"It is said that the Administration adheres to the possession of San Juan Island, and that, in response to the proposition of the British Government, the latter has by this time been so informed." In a later despatch the same authority gives the following:—"Our Government refused to accept the mode of settlement presented by her Majesty's Government, and reiterates its clear and undisputed right to the island. When her Majesty's Government concedes that point the matter is settled, and without that there will be no settlement of the question, so far as our Government is concerned."

The Japanese Embassy to the United States had been received with great honour at San Francisco. They were made the guests of the city; the Corporation had appropriated 20,000 dollars for their entertainment, and a grand public reception was held in their honour. Congress had appropriated 50,000 dollars to meet the expenses of the Embassy at Washington. It is stated that Lord Lyons, under instructions from the British Government, will extend to the Ambassadors a cordial invitation to visit Great Britain.

A treaty had been concluded with Spain providing for the settlement of all pending claims.

A resolution had been passed in the Senate at Washington for inquiry into the expediency of raising the Sardinian mission to one of the first class.

The Attorney-General, Mr. Black, had received and declined a challenge from ex-Governor Walker.

The news from Mexico is somewhat important. The British Minister had made another attempt to terminate the civil war by proposing that a truce of six months should be agreed to by both parties, and that a general Congress should be convoked for the purpose of framing a Constitution. If this proposal was rejected, then our representative would retire to Vera Cruz; and, imitating the example of the United States, he would be prepared to recognise the Government of Juarez.

INDIA.

FINANCE.

The Calcutta correspondent of the *Times*, writing on the 22nd of March, says:—"We have now received responses from all India to Mr. Wilson's plans, and the general result appears to be this:—The European community, official and non-official, are unanimous in favour of the income tax. The native community, though dreading its operation, are either not sufficiently in earnest even to summon meetings to protest, or regard the measure as one predetermined, to which they must perforce submit. Large classes, however, have not heard of the proposal. On the Currency Bill opinion is more divided. The non-official community uphold the plan, but many of the officials believe that the natives will misunderstand the phrases about legal tender, and complain that Government is abstracting silver from the country. The native opinion of the North is not known, but the Bengalees, accustomed to bank notes, are decidedly favourable. On the tobacco tax, again, all classes are unanimous. The income tax and currency bills will be introduced on the 24th inst. The lower schedule struck the European soldiery, and the tax was canvassed in barracks in a very unamiable spirit. Government does not want another discussion with its soldiery, and all non-commissioned officers and soldiers are formally exempted. The concession was unavoidable, though it will not please the natives. The currency bill is based, I understand, on the principle of leaving details to the Chief Commissioner of Issue, who will be at first Mr. Richard Temple, lately Secretary to the Government of the Punjab."

THE INDIGO RIOTS.

The disturbances in the indigo districts have not subsided. The riots have a leader, who styles himself "the Uprooter of the Indigo Race, the Indigo Destroyer." He declares that he will be the Nana Sahib of Bengal. Mr. Grant had issued a notification, but it had produced no effect. A deputation waited on him, and pressed for more stringent measures. The Government then determined to pass a bill, at once, making any breach of an indigo contract a criminal offence, punishable summarily by the nearest magistrate. This it was supposed would save the crop and pacify the people.

LORD CANNING'S PROGRESS.

Lord Canning arrived at Peshawar on the 22nd of February, and held a great Durbar on the 29th, attended by all the frontier chiefs. He then proceeded to Sealkote, where he received the Maharajah of Cashmere, and presented him with the Queen's picture set in diamonds, and the perpetual right of adoption. This latter gift is of the utmost importance to the family—the treaty vesting Cashmere only in the descendants of Golab Singh "lawfully and lawfully begotten." The Viceroy proposed to descend to Calcutta in the beginning of July, to organise some arrangements ordered from home—among others, it is said, the change of the Council into a Cabinet.

CHINA.

A report comes from Canton that the Chinese have captured the gun-boats *Dove* and *Algerine* off the Peiho. It is a Chinese report. When the *Sanspariel* left the Gulf of Pecheli, on the 4th of March, the gun-boats were safe at their anchorage.

Sir Hope Grant arrived from India at Hong-Kong on the 13th of March.

Some of the best-informed Europeans in China state that they have no hope that the Imperial Government will consent to an adjustment of the existing difficulty until they are compelled by force. It is added, also, that the Chinese are understood to have built fourteen miles of fortifications, and that there are 200,000 men under arms to dispute the passage of the allied forces to Peking.

THE SAVOY QUESTION.

One of M. de Thouvenel's notes on the Savoy question, addressed on the 7th of April to the Federal Government of Switzerland, appeared on Wednesday in the *Moniteur*, repeating that France accepts the article 92 of the final act of Vienna, and contesting the Swiss argument that the mere fact of the cession of the lake districts to France upsets it. Another such note of later date appeared in the *Moniteur* on Thursday.

Doubts are again entertained as to whether the proposed Congress for the settlement of the Swiss claims will meet at all, especially as France appears disposed to make no real concessions to Switzerland. The Federal Government has as yet received no notification whatsoever of the final adoption by the European Powers of a Conference, though with the vote of the Sardinian Chamber the matter seems to be ripe for decision.

The *Bund* of Berne informs us that the Emperor of the French has offered fifty million francs, or two million pounds, to the Swiss Confederation if they will relinquish their rights on Chablais, Faucigny, and the Genevois altogether.

The Swiss Federal Government have recalled the troops now embodied and dispatched to the southern cantons, but intend immediately to supplant them by others.

The voting in North Savoy may be judged of by that of Nice, the details of which are now becoming better known. The following are some of the facts taken from a Turin paper, apparently well informed on the subject.

The list of electors had only 4000 names inscribed on it; and the official return gave 6848 votes as found in the balloting boxes. Of those who voted about 3000 were not on the list of electors, and of those who were not inscribed it was impossible to ascertain whether they were legally disqualified or not. The names were not called over. In one section this was attempted, but the confusion was so great that the attempt was at once abandoned. A proclamation of the Governor Luboni opened a wide door to abuse, by saying that the condition of a six months' residence did not apply to Nizzards who were well known, and who might return to take part in the voting. A crowd of inhabitants on the other side of the Var made their appearance, and were all admitted as Nizzards. Boys so young that they might have been taken for children were observed to vote, and yet it was necessary to be twenty-one years of age to be entitled. In one of the boxes a paper was found, on which was inscribed "An order for receiving bread gratis" (*Bon pour recevoir du pain gratis*). This was a very unintentional mistake by an individual who dropped the order in the box instead of the "oui" for which the order was given. At Mentone, Count Alberti, having ventured to say that when a population was called upon to vote it held in its hands its own destiny, was sharply reprimanded by an official of the place, and was threatened with arrest.

THE SICILIAN INSURRECTION.

From the various and conflicting accounts of the Sicilian insurrection we must infer that the movement is very serious, and far from being suppressed at present. The insurrection fights; it conquers; it is conquered in turn; it concentrates itself; or, to speak more correctly, it falls back on the mountainous parts of the island, and, up to a few days since, prospered on the whole. Between the 15th and the 21st ult. there was more than one encounter between the patriots and the King's troops. On the 15th a two-hours' contest took place at San Lorenzo, which ended in the retreat of the troops after they had suffered considerable losses. On the next morning they returned in greater strength. The contest was renewed, and very hot. The insurgents fell back on the village, from which the soldiery dislodged them by means of artillery. The little place at last fell into the hands of the soldiery, who pillaged, sacked, and literally razed it to the ground. The insurgents withdrew in the direction of Monreale. At this latter place another struggle took place on the same day. Here the insurgents were in considerable force, and well intrenched. The Royalists for some hours made great efforts to dislodge them, but at last were attacked and driven back with considerable losses. On the next day General Salzano dispatched 5000 fresh troops after having reviewed them, and told them that they were going out to chastise a rebel town, which would be left to the mercy of the soldiers. General Salzano left Palermo at nightfall, and encamped outside the gates. On the next day, the 18th, he attacked the insurgents at six o'clock in the morning. The cannon could be heard from that time until noon, and the troops repeatedly attempted an assault. But the insurgents successfully defended all their intrenched positions, and, finally, the troops had to withdraw. In the meantime the leaders of the insurgents had received information of additional forces having left Palermo, and thought it precarious to hold the place any longer. So they resolved to spare the little town the fate awaiting it in case of a successful assault on the part of the troops, and fell back on a hilly region. This was of no avail to the town. Monreale was taken, pillaged, sacked, as usual, and all the villas in this place of recreation for the Palermitans totally destroyed. So great, however, had been the losses on the previous day of the flying corps which committed those atrocities, that it had to return the next day to Palermo, on account of the utter inefficiency of its ambulances.

On the same day, General Cataldo attacked Carini with 7000 men, which little town, twelve miles west of Palermo, was held by between 2000 and 3000 insurgents. The fight which took place must have been terrible. The troops buried 320 of their own number and 250 of the insurgents on the spot, so that at least ten per cent of the latter fell before they retired. There was no pursuit, but the town was sacked and pillaged by the troops, their officers setting them the example.

Two days after this the same band of insurgents who had held Monreale, and the same regiments which had attacked it, came once more to close quarters, the latter having issued again from Palermo. The encounter took place at Alamo, and ended in the defeat of the troops, who lost two pieces of cannon. Another column of troops, which had advanced in the direction of Cefalu, along the coast, on the 22nd, fell back upon Termini without a combat, having found the country covered with dense masses of well-armed patriots. The leader of the insurgent bands is said to be one Rosoline Pio.

This is one account, and it bears strong marks of authenticity. The information from Naples simply amounts to this—that the insurgents are flying from the Royal troops in all directions, and that the movement is virtually quelled.

Advices from Messina to the 28th ult. state that perfect tranquillity, but general discouragement, prevailed. The number of persons who had been arrested was considerable. The citadel and prisons were crowded to excess. Contradictory rumours were in circulation. It was said that a Neapolitan General had been captured by the insurgents, and that the seat of Government was about to be transferred to Messina; and that the garrison of Palermo, although numbering nearly 20,000 men, apparently feared to proceed into the interior.

One English, one American, and three Sardinian men-of-war have made their appearance in the Sicilian waters, near Messina, and near Palermo. Garibaldi is reported to have gone to Sicily with his Staff.

A letter received by a high functionary in Paris contains some

curious revelations with respect to the participation of the monks of La Grancia in the late insurrection at Palermo. This letter states positively that the Sicilian authorities have ascertained that these warlike monks were false brothers—revolutionary agents, in fact, recruited by Mazzini, and, with the external appearance of being completely detached from the affairs of this world, assumed the dress a year since with a view to excite an insurrection. They had completely succeeded in deceiving the venerable Prior of the convent and the other monks who were not their accomplices. The day of the insurrection they seized the Prior, and then gave the signal of the revolt by ringing the convent bell. The plot was well got up, although it did not succeed.

M. ABOUT'S NEW PAMPHLET.

M. About's new pamphlet, the "Map of Europe," the announcement of which excited considerable expectation, has appeared. It seems to be merely a joke, but by no means a joke without point. The Paris journals rather unnecessarily assert that it has no official origin:—

A polyglot party are assembled at the Hotel du Louvre. A French officer; an Englishwoman—a sort of bagwoman, a female traveller for the house of Purse, Pocket, and Co.; a wheezing old Turk; an American; a jolly old monk from Rome; a Piedmontese; a Prussian; a Russian; and a couple of youths whom you might have taken for brothers, though one was born at Vienna, the other at Naples. They agree to avail themselves of this fortuitous concourse of atoms by converting their meeting into a Congress, the proposal being unanimously agreed to. The French officer proposes that, by virtue of the uncontested superiority of France over other nations, they should accept him for their president. His modest proposal was acceded to. The president asks the "sick man" whether he wishes to make his will? The turbaned Turk, roused from his lethargy, declares that he feels perfectly well, not in the least disposed to die; but he would be glad if the company would save him from the annoyance to which the foreign Consuls, and the Greeks, and Russians, subject him. They tell him that this will not do—that he must make his will; and he, accordingly, resolves to make a virtue of necessity by consenting to return to the tomb of the Prophet, at Medina, taking with him only a hundred wives and a few bushels of diamonds. This noble instance of Mussulman resignation is loudly applauded by the monk; but his sentiments undergo a change when he is called upon to follow the Turk's exodus; but, after much feeble murmuring, he also consents to retire to Jerusalem.

"Build me a small cottage, then, with a room upstairs for Antonelli, and do as you please with my temporal possessions. M. Dupanloup will visit me, and I will give him lessons in courtesy and Christian principles. I will even amuse my leisure hours by attempting to tame Veillot, whom I will keep in a cage at the bottom of my garden."

Every one was delighted, especially the young representative of Austria, who said, "I accept the heritage of the Holy See in Italy. I accept the Sultan's legacy, according to the traditions of my country. I accept whatever I can get; but, as he saw the French President frown, he added, 'if it please Europe, I am ready to accept anything; for my affairs are in such a state that I have no power to enforce my wishes.'"

"My dear child," says the Englishwoman, "don't pout over your fate. Sell Galicia to the Poles, Venice to the Italians, and Hungary to the Hungarians, for whatever they will fetch."

"But Venice belongs to me."

"Because a Frenchman permits you to keep it."

"And Hungary is still my property."

"Because it was delivered up to you by Russia."

"And Galicia is mine."

"So much the worse for you. The fewer your subjects, the fewer will be your enemies."

"But can't you give me up Moldavia and Wallachia?"

"They tell him that the time has gone by for nations to be imposed upon. Universal suffrage is the order of the day, and people now choose their own rulers. The Neapolitan bounds from his chair. What the deuce is he to do? If they appeal to his people he will lose his throne inevitably. The French officer attempts to console him. "Grant a constitution to your subjects, and you may reign six months longer—a long time for a Bourbon—and then your country will incorporate itself with Piedmont." And having thus satisfactorily settled this question, they agree to talk about the Ottoman Empire.

"Willingly," said the Muscovite, as "On revient toujours à ses premières amours." He is ready to undertake the management of the property lately belonging to his circumscribed neighbour. The meeting was on the point of agreeing to the Russian project, when the Englishwoman interposed. England, she said, was the pioneer of civilisation. She had introduced crockery, calicoes, cotton stuffs of all kinds, twelve-bladed knives, and peppermint lozenges, and carried other blessings of progress to the uttermost corners of the earth. They quiet the bagwoman by promising Egypt to her, in exchange for which she consents to accelerate the works on the Suez Canal, to give up the Ionian Isles, Malta, and Gibraltar; she was really ashamed to have deprived Europe so long of the key of the Mediterranean. The Muscovite rises. He will not be outdone in generosity. He consents to waive his claims to the Ottoman Empire. Finally, they agree to make a Greek Empire, its capital at Constantinople; King Otho, of course, to be dismissed to Bavaria, and a real Greek Emperor to reign at Stamboul, instead of Adalbert, in his place. The Muscovite then proposes to resuscitate Poland, and to create a great Polish nation. He would like to see a great nation of Slaves. "As for us, we will surge onwards into Armenia, Kurdistan, Cabul, Persia, and Beloochistan. You can give us Syria also if you please, as we should like to have a place to throw our noses after the winter at St. Petersburg. In abandoning thus a portion of your territories, we do but what is just and natural. When Sardinia was enlarged by the annexation of neighbouring provinces, did she not feel bound spontaneously to offer France a territorial guarantee?"

This point having been also satisfactorily settled, the Prussian starts up—"I hear you talking about the resuscitation of Poland; pray, do you intend to deprive us of the Duchy of Posen?" The French officer's strong sense of justice and rectitude would not permit him to contemplate any such spoliation without offering an adequate compensation to Prussia from amongst the swarm of microscopical States in Germany, whose ridiculous little caricatures of Courts would then be swept away. The Prussian gratefully accedes to the arrangement, and insists on bestowing her Rhenish provinces on France. But the French Captain's virtue and abnegation, of which he has already given many proofs, is adamant. He will accept nothing. True, the Rhine is his natural frontier, but diplomacy would be jealous—he would even be suspected of designs upon Belgium. The Englishwoman interposes; she thinks it would be the very best possible arrangement for Belgium to be annexed to France, as Belgium is already French in heart and soul; but the French Captain, a model of forbearance, says—"I would rather die at St. Helena than covet my neighbour's goods. Have you not heard the debates in your Parliament, the diatribes of your journals, when I was compelled to accept some slopes of barren mountains by my faithful ally the King of Sardinia, and the ardent wishes of his people?" He insists on retaining his virtue, assuring the company that France will gain largely by their changes. She will then be able to grant freedom of speech in her Parliament, and freedom of the press to her people, and to disband her armies. The handsome Englishwoman, overcome by the French soldier's nobility of soul, throws herself into his arms, saying, "France is happy to possess such a man as you. You have my friendship and esteem, and I promise to be your faithful ally—whenever it may suit my interests."

POST OFFICE GRIEVANCES.—A memorial has been addressed by the letter-carriers of the General Post Office to the late Commission appointed to inquire into their grievances. We say "late Commission," inasmuch as we believe that, in consequence of disagreement among its members, the Commission has already, by ceasing to meet, virtually ceased to exist. The memorial may be summed up as forcibly expressing in detail the injury which the public service in the Post Office suffers from "the insufficiency of the working staff, and consequent heavy nature of each individual's labour," the number of hours which all are kept employed, and the inadequate remuneration which the men, one and all, consider they receive. On this last point they state that they are convinced the present low scale of wages in a fruitful source of evil to the service, and also cruel in its effects upon the men; firstly, by the vast amount of temptation laid before them, they are led step by step to dishonesty. As the maximum amount of wages which they ask is only 40s. per week, "and this not to be arrived at by any man until he has completed fifteen years' actual service," it can hardly be said that there is anything unreasonable in this proposal. In addition to minor grievances, such as compelling the men to come a distance to receive their pay at a stated hour on Saturday, instead of its being given to them when their duties take them to the office in the morning, and the insufficiency of one suit of clothing for a whole year's wear in both summer and winter, they bitterly complain of the system of "driving, needlessly irritating, and hurrying the men through their duties, as degrading and hurtful to their feeling." The memorial is signed by 302 of the General Post Office letter-carriers, among whom there is no doubt the most intense dissatisfaction now prevails.

THE JEWS IN PRUSSIA.—A deputation of the first families in Prussia having a few days ago waited upon the Prince Regent to present an address deprecating the appointment of Jews to judicial offices, his Highness stated in answer, that the present condition of the Hebrew question ought to be regarded as very different from that of a quarter of a century ago.

THE SUICIDE OF BARON VON BRUCK.

WHEN the decease of the Baron Bruck was announced last week it was not unsuspected that he had died by his own hand. His position as Minister of Finance; the malversations lately discovered; the occurrence of his death within a few hours after he had "resigned"—all looked dark; and the suspicion has now been verified.

The *Wiener Zeitung* says:—The sudden death of the ex-Minister of Finance is an event of such serious importance, and it has given rise to so many contradictory reports, that we consider it necessary—though the task is a painful one—to make known to the public those circumstances connected with it which are based on authentic data. The Vienna *Landes-gericht* (Provincial Court), which is inquiring into the circumstances connected with the criminal frauds that took place during the late war, deemed it advisable—in order to have a more exact and complete knowledge of the state of the case—to examine Baron Bruck, the Minister of Finance, as a witness. This examination, which began in the evening of Friday, the 20th inst., led to a further collection of evidence, which was of such a nature that it appeared probable that the witness Baron Bruck would very soon be confronted with other witnesses and persons accused. Under such circumstances his Imperial Royal Apostolic Majesty deemed it necessary to issue the following autograph letter:—

Dear Baron von Bruck,—In accordance with your request I remove you from office for a time and intrust the direction of the Ministry of Finance to the Councillor of the Empire, Ignatius von Plener.

This autograph letter was delivered to Baron von Bruck in the evening of the 22nd inst. (Sunday week), and in the morning of the 23rd he was found bleeding in his bed. His relatives immediately sent for physicians, who omitted to communicate to the authorities what they saw. A report was spread that Baron Bruck, having had an attack of apoplexy, had been bled. In the evening several highly-placed persons were informed that Baron Bruck had died at ten minutes past five o'clock of repeated fits of apoplexy. In consequence of this communication his Majesty gave orders that the foregoing autograph letter should not be made public. On the 24th the prescribed inspection (by means of "searchers") of the body took place, and, in consequence of the report sent in, a judicial examination into the state of the case became necessary. In the meantime reports that the deceased had died a violent death had come to the knowledge of the President of the Provincial Court. A commission went to Baron Bruck's apartments in the forenoon of the 25th, and, in the presence of sworn witnesses, judicially examined his body. The corpse, which was in bed, was large and powerfully made. On the back were the spots which appear after death. The chest was arched, the abdomen drawn in, the limbs stiff. On the left side on the neck was an incised wound, which was seven inches in length, extending from the nape to the middle line of the neck. On the inner side of the right wrist was an incised wound two inches long. On the inner side of the left wrist was an incised wound three inches long. In the stomach, which was extended by gas, was a small quantity of gray, cloudy fluid. In the mucous membrane of the stomach was a grayish slime, with small, greasy granules. The stomach, with its scanty contents, was put into a vessel, which was sealed up, for examination.

The razor with which the wounds were inflicted, the vessel containing the stomach, and the protocol were carried away by the Commission. The written opinion given by Dr. Rokitsky and Dr. Cessner, after the examination, was in substance as follows:—1. That, as Baron Bruck lost a great quantity of blood from the wounds which he inflicted on himself, it must be concluded he died of loss of blood, unless, indeed, an analytical examination of the contents of the stomach should show that a very active poison contributed to his death. 2. The chronic serous effusion in the skull, the relaxation of the substance of the heart, and the sebaceous (tallowy) state of the liver, justify the conclusion that Baron Bruck, being in a state of great distress of mind and of dependency, committed suicide.

The presumption is that the ex-Minister took some vegetable poison (morphine or strychnine) during the night, and that he inflicted the wounds on his neck and wrists towards morning in order to bring on death more speedily.

In what way and to what extent Baron Bruck was implicated in the Eynatten-Revolte affair has not yet appeared, but he would probably have been arrested had he not killed himself. On Wednesday, the 18th ult., he refused to be examined by M. Hitzinger, the judge, on the plea that he, as Minister, was responsible to the Emperor alone; but on Friday he consented to reply to the questions which were put to him. After his examination on the last-mentioned day M. Hitzinger and M. Keller, the general prosecutor, had an interview with Count Goluchowski, the Minister of the Interior, and Count Nadassy, the Minister of Justice, and those gentlemen subsequently declared to the Emperor that the ends of justice required the temporary dismissal of Baron Bruck from office.

A great crowd assembled to see the remains of the ex-Minister removed from the church to the cemetery, but very few of his so-called friends were present. In the church was the Turkish Ambassador, but no other member of the Diplomatic Corps. None of the Ministers attended the funeral, and the employés in the different Government offices received orders not to appear at it in uniform. At three o'clock, the time at which the ceremony began, it rained very heavily, and consequently but few persons drove out to the place of burial. A considerable crowd had, however, already assembled there before the cortege arrived. Some friendly hand had covered the bottom of the grave with beautiful flowers.

Singular reports are in circulation, and one of them is that Baron Bach has been summoned, by electric telegraph, to go to Vienna. The general public think that he is to be President of the Council of the Empire; the financiers opine that he is to be Minister of Finance; and the aristocracy mention his name in connection with the sale of a part of the State railroads to a French company a few years ago.

INCOME OF INDIA.—A return has just been made to the House of Lords of the income of India in each year from the year 1834 to the year 1857-8. It appears that the income of India has progressively increased from 1834 to the present time. In the year 1833-4 it was £18,267,368, and in the year 1857-8, £31,706,766, an increase of £13,439,398. This increase has been gradually produced, and accumulated at the rate of somewhat less than a million a year until it has reached its present proportions. The charges of collection in every branch of the revenue were, in 1833-4, £2,985,364, and, in 1857-8, £3,770,179. Although this last sum is undoubtedly large, we observe that it is considerably less than in the years 1853-4 and 1854-5, when it reached the sum of £4,088,733 and £4,290,912 respectively, or almost a seventh of the total income. We are also glad to notice a decrease in pensions, or allowances and assignments, in accordance with treaties. In the year 1830-1 these allowances reached the sum of £1,469,763, but in 1857-8 they fell to £883,454. If, however, these charges have decreased, they have by no means done so in the same ratio as the allowances to district and village officers and enamulars, and charitable grants have increased. These allowances in 1833-4 were £230,306, from which time they have grown to the sum of £1,113,912, which was the amount allowed for them in 1857-8. This, however, is a decrease on the previous year of 1856-7 by the sum of £26,219, which, in the present state of Indian finance, small though it be, is a matter of congratulation.

THE SERPENTINE.—The report of the Select Committee appointed to consider the best means of effectually cleansing the Serpentine has appeared. "After much patient investigation," say the Committee, "we have arrived reluctantly at the conclusion that the proposed filtration will not be effectual for the desired object; and that this cleansing process ought not to be carried on in one of the most beautiful spots in Kensington Gardens. We recommend, therefore, that the project of filtration be abandoned, and that the best available supply of fresh water be poured in to such an extent as to produce some continual flow. Whenever the Metropolitan Board have completed their works for the diversion of sewage from the Serpentine measures should be taken for rendering the bed of the lake clean and hard. We have not come to any conclusion as to the extent to which the mud ought to be removed, hardened, or covered, nor as to the relative merits of gravel or concrete as a covering, nor as to the expediency of burning it, nor as to the depth which would best promote the convenience and safety of bathers and skaters, and the purity of the water; but we are of opinion that the present condition of the bed of the Serpentine absolutely requires amendment."

IRELAND.

THE PROSPECTS OF IRELAND.—The *Fermanagh Reporter* draws a very gloomy sketch of the present state and future prospects of the Irish agricultural interest:—"Things look ill in Ireland. We have had a bitter winter, protracted drearily and almost hopelessly till near May; every agricultural operation is far behind; the cattle are dying off rapidly for want of food; the prospects of the coming harvest time are anything but cheering; and the people are flying in shoals from the country."—A report from Cork says:—"With the exception of a few insufficient falls of rain in the early part of this (last) week there was no change from the drought of the past few weeks. There is, therefore, no vegetation; and the parched, barren appearance of the country is certainly such as to excite some alarm."—An account from the county of Kerry is not favourable:—"We hear the most discouraging accounts from all parts of the county of the condition of new milch cows and springers, from want of a sufficient supply of proper winter and spring fodder."

THE PROVINCES.

A BOY KILLED BY A LIONESS.—The other day, when Manders's menagerie was at Great Grimsby, a boy, named Redman, was swinging on the ropes placed in front of the dens; and, although previously cautioned, he approached close to the den in which the lions were kept. A lioness immediately seized his head with her paw, and would have crushed it to atoms had not a lion, anxious to have a share, pushed heavily against her, and the keeper rushing up, caused the animal to liberate the poor lad. His head and neck, however, were so fearfully lacerated that he has since died from the effect of his wounds.

VOLUNTEER DEMONSTRATION AT BIRKENHEAD.—On Saturday one of the most complete volunteer demonstrations that have yet taken place came off in the Upper Park at Birkenhead. Upwards of 2000 volunteers were present, and from 20,000 to 30,000 spectators, including the "upper ten" of Liverpool, Birkenhead, and the surrounding district. The day was beautifully fine—a clear, light atmosphere, with a fleecy cloud here and there to relieve the eye, while below all was gay. The demonstration was caused by the presentation of a silver and gold bugle to the 1st Cheshire Rifle Volunteers by Mrs. Brassey, wife of Mr. Brassey, M.P.

PROVIDENTIAL DELIVERANCE.—In a wood near Ipsden, in the neighbourhood of Nettlebed, Oxfordshire, there is an old Roman well, famous among antiquarians. A few days ago two gentlemen were on the way to inspect the antiquity, when they were overtaken by a farmer who resides in the neighbourhood, and the three reached the spot in company. One of the visitors, curious to ascertain the depth of the well, threw a stone down, and immediately afterwards the cry of a child was heard. A boy was now induced, by the promise of a handsome reward, to allow himself to be lowered down with ropes. On reaching the bottom, he exclaimed, "There is a child here, and it is alive." He was told to hold it fast, and soon afterwards was drawn to the top with a fine female infant, about fourteen months old, in his arms. The child was alive, but in a state of great exhaustion, having been in the well for two days and a night. The child was recognised as that of a young woman who had been seen going in the direction of the wood two days previously, and had then disappeared. As the child is little injured, it is supposed that the mother contrived to lower it by means of a rope, and then let it die of starvation.

THE POACHING AFFRAY IN HERTFORDSHIRE.—Sir Thomas S. Bright, whose gamekeepers were injured in a poaching affray some time since, has received an anonymous letter, stating that both Cain and Bliss are innocent of the charge of murdering Seabrook; that they were not of the party who attacked the gamekeepers; that the gang consisted of six men; that they sallied out to shoot him (Burgess) for swearing falsely against two men at the petty sessions held at Hemel Hempstead the day previous to the attack on the keepers; that though Burgess escaped they were resolved to shoot him. The letter concludes with threats and denunciations.

ATTEMPT TO PLUNDER A MAIL.—Mr. Chapman, the landlord of the King's Head Inn, Rochford, and contractor of the mail, was fired at on his return journey from Ingatstone, near Rayleigh, on Thursday week. On arriving at Rochford he delivered his bags, and met Mr. Akers, inspector of police of that town, in the street. Mr. Akers immediately drove to the spot, accompanied by Mr. Chapman. On arriving there, they found two waggon ropes, or a rope tied twice, one part of which was broken, and the other on the ground, suspended to elm-trees on each side of the road. Mr. Akers took possession of it, and also found some brown paper-wadding from a gun. From various circumstances, a man named John Philbrook is suspected, and the police are in search of him.

THE GUN-BOATS AT HASLAR.—The *Times* Portsmouth correspondent writes to reiterate his statements with reference to the gun-boats at Haslar. He did not refer, he says, to the vessels built by those firms which have addressed letters to the *Times*. "The four boats on the condition of which I framed my report I will call by numbers—1, 2, 3, and 4. The repairs to No. 1 are for the present suspended, a special report having been made of her condition. This is the boat whence were extracted the short copper bolts. No. 2, like No. 1, has her repairs suspended for the present, and is also, in a similar manner to No. 1, stripped of her planking. No. 3 is partly repaired; but her defects have been but little short of those of Nos. 1 and 2. Not only, as I have before stated, are the majority of the timbers of Nos. 1, 2, and 3 liberally marked with 'sap,' but in several instances they have been barely squared, and plainly show the growth of the wood. Plank with the 'sap' on it has not only been used freely, but the faulty side of it has been bolted next to the vessel's framing, and communicated its rot to the timber of the vessel itself. The planking on the out side thus presenting a hard, firm appearance, has been found one of the most difficult points to deal with, and I am assured on competent authority that this great evil in the construction of the vessels has proved to be the 'rule,' and not the 'exception.'"

THE GROWING CROPS.—The young wheats are considered to present, on the whole, a satisfactory appearance in Norfolk and some other counties, although the plant is backward and thin elsewhere. The harvest will probably, in consequence of the long-continued severity of the winter and the backwardness of the spring, be rather later than last year, but with fine weather and seasonable showers vegetation will make rapid progress. A favourable change took place on Saturday, and summer appears to have now set in in earnest.

THE CHAMPIONSHIP.—According to the *Era*, arrangements have been made for Sayers and Heenan to fight again in about two months' time. The gentleman who acted as referee in the late fight declines to appear in that capacity again. *Bell's Life* yet hopes that the difficulty may be arranged. The same journal publishes a list of subscriptions collected at Newmarket for Tom Sayers. The following are amongst the subscribers: The Earl of Stamford, £100; his Grace the Duke of Beaufort, £50; the Earl of Glasgow, £50; the Earl of Chesterfield, £20; the Earl of Annesley, £10; Viscount Clifden, £10; the Earl of Coventry, £10; Viscount Exmouth, £10; the Earl of Strathmore, £10; the Earl of Portsmouth, £10; Count Battenberg, £10; Lord Courtenay, £10; the Hon. Admiral Rous, £10; Lord Paget, £10; the Earl of Winchelsea, £10; the Earl of Lincoln, £10; Sir W. Coddington, £10; Viscount Andover, £5; the Hon. Col. Forrester, £5. The total sum collected at Newmarket was £685. *Bell's Life* has received £115s. in small sums. "In addition to the above Tom has received one hundred guineas, collected by the gentlemen of the Stock Exchange, which he has deposited with us, to be added to the annuity fund. Two noblemen of distinguished rank, and another gentleman, have authorised us to put down their names for £20 each, but have not given us permission to publish their titles." About £100 was collected by the merchants in Minding-lane, and presented to Sayers on Saturday. About £200 was collected in the House of Commons. At Liverpool about £120 was raised on change, and presented to the champion personally.

THE VOLUNTEER PRIZE MEETING.—With the long days of summer rifle shooting may begin in earnest, and on the 2nd of July will commence the prize meeting of the National Rifle Association on Wimbledon-common. This body proposes to itself objects of the highest importance. It will be, as far as we can understand, entirely independent of the volunteers, but will yet tend greatly to promote their efficiency. All the help that rank, and wealth, and social influence can give to patriotism will be furnished by this society. The subscriptions are large, the prizes are worth contending for, and among the donors of these are her Majesty and the Prince Consort. The details of the scheme are set forth in a prospectus, of which we will here only trace its principal features. There will be six ranges, varying from 300 to 1000 yards; the shooting at 300 yards to be from the shoulder, and at the remaining five ranges from the knee. The Queen's prize of £250, together with the gold medal of the association, will be shot for by candidates successful in other trials, the ranges being 800, 900, and 1000 yards. There will also be prizes "for all comers of all nations," at ranges of from 200 to 1000 yards, and the Prince Consort will give a prize of £100 to the best shot in this department. A short time ago the Swiss riflemen challenged our English volunteers to take part in a national match. Captain Ross, of Netherley, wrote accepting the challenge, and was informed that the Swiss range did not exceed 550 feet, or 183 yards. Captain Ross offered to shoot them 1000 or 1200 yards, but his proposal was declined.

GREAT FIRE AT THE EUSTON HOTEL.—Early on Wednesday evening flames were seen to issue from the roof of the Euston Hotel; and the conflagration made such rapid progress that there seemed little doubt that the entire property would be destroyed. However, in two or three hours the fire was extinguished, but not till sixty-two rooms had been destroyed, wholly or in part, while the roof, right round the building, was burned off.

THE RIFFIANS.

OUR Engraving gives a highly characteristic sketch of a Riffian of the suite of Muley Abbas, the Moorish commander-in-chief. It is well known that the late war between the Spaniards and the Moors originated in depredations committed by the Riffians on Spanish merchantmen, satisfaction for which the Emperor of Morocco refused or was unable to give. The Emperor only exercises nominal authority over those tribes, and is well satisfied when they pay him an annual tribute. Formerly the piracy on the coast of Morocco was something fearful; few ships dared venture near the shore. At one time even the "rovers of Salle," manned by Berber or Riffian crews, cruised off the English coast, and defied the British fleet. Now the whole naval force of the once-dreaded piratical States of Barbary can hardly boast of two or three badly-manned brigs or frigates. As to Morocco, the Emperor has not a single captain who can conduct a vessel from Mogador to Gibraltar. The most skillful *raids* his ports can furnish made an attempt lately, and was blown up and down for months on the coasts of Spain and Portugal, being at last driven into the Straits by almost miraculous interposition.

The Riff is divided into two unequal parts by the Cape Tres Forcas; and, as we have said above, the inhabitants are nearly all pirates. Lately they have not exercised their brigandage so openly, yet it is still dangerous to approach within their reach. The Spanish fishermen of the Canaries are chiefly their victims now. These poor people are either seized when becalmed near the coast, or captured on being cast on shore by the furious trade winds which sweep these desolate shores and carry utter destruction with them. The wild Riffians in bad weather, with the true storm-scent of the wrecker, patiently watch the coasts, pouncing on their prey with the voracity of the vulture. Having got the shipwrecked men in their possession, they act with the cunning and avarice of slave-dealers; and they are aided by the still craftier Jews, who always render it very difficult for the consular agents to redeem these unhappy captives. Sometimes the Riffians alluringly question their captives to see if they understand any mechanical arts, which are greatly esteemed, being very useful in these almost tenantless regions; and, should they discover that they do, they carry them away into hopeless captivity through the wilds of the desert, refusing to sell them at any price or offer of ransom. But those who cannot or will not make themselves useful are generally redeemed by the Mogador Consuls should they escape being massacred in the quarrels of the Arabs for the booty when they are first captured.

The savage Riffians assemble for barter and trade on market days, which are occasions of fierce and incessant quarrels among themselves, when it is not unusual for two or three persons to be left dead on the spot. No European traveller could dare to visit these provinces; and we may state positively that journeying here is more dangerous than in the farthest wastes of the Sahara. Spanish renegades, however, are found among them, who have escaped from the praesidios, or penal settlements.

Among these tribes, Abd-el-Kader sought refuge and support when he was obliged to retire from Algeria, and where he defied the power of the Imperial Government for several months. Had the Emir chosen, he could have remained in Riff till this time, but he determined to try his strength with the Sultan in a pitched battle, which should decide his fate.

The Riff country is full of mines, and is rich and highly cultivated. It is bounded south by one of the lesser chains of the Atlas, running parallel with the coast.

THE SUMMIT OF MOUNT CENIS.

TRAVELLING over Mount Cenis is now getting easier than it was some few weeks back; the sun has already become powerful enough to melt the snow that chokes the pathways, and the diligences drawn by its formidable string of mules has less difficulties to contend with. The ascent of the mountain occupies about five hours, and is made simultaneously on the Savoy and Piedmontese sides. The train bearing the mails from France arrives at St. Jean de Maurienne, the last station on the Victor Emmanuel Railway, at four p.m. Here diligences wait for the travellers, and a journey of some fifty miles is performed through a continuous valley, with the majestic Alps rising on each side, to Lanslebourg at the foot of Mount Cenis. This place is reached about midnight, and here some score of mules are harnessed to the diligences and the ascent is commenced. The summit is generally reached about half-past four in the morning, and in summer-time the scene that then meets the traveller's eye is one of surpassing grandeur. The whole range of the frosted pinnacles of the Alps stretch far away towards Monte Rosa and Mont Blanc, glistening as they catch the rays of the rising sun against the clear orange-tinted sky like burnished steel. On the Italian side lay the plains of Piedmont richly covered with foliage, amidst which the numerous water-courses can be traced intersecting each other like threads of silver.

On the summit of the mountain itself is a convent that answers the purpose more of an inn than a religious establishment, for here, on payment of a fair price, refreshments may be procured, and a

breakfast made off some excellent fish obtained from the lake that lies exactly in front of the building. This lake is of immense depth; and if we were to credit the stories told by the monks—who, if they are not, ought to be veracious—the bottom cannot be found. In the centre of this lake, which is of no mean size, is a small, thickly-wooded island, and on this the good fathers, during the summer season, delight to stroll and meditate—on the rich harvests to be made from passing travellers. Mount Cenis, which has been made easy of passage during a great portion of the year, is now the only barrier (by the new treaty) that separates aggressive France from the fertile regions of Italy; one side of it, by the annexation of Savoy, becomes French.

PRESENTATION OF LOYAL ADDRESSES TO THE QUEEN OF SPAIN.

THE recent attempt at insurrection in Spain has been the occasion of an almost universal expression of loyalty from all parts of the country to Queen Isabella and her Government. A telegraphic despatch came from Marshal O'Donnell, as soon as the news was known in Africa expressing in the name of himself and the army of Africa, indignation at the conduct of General Ortega, and begging that the Queen might rest

Nevertheless, aided by the revolutionary party (and by) popular discontent produced by their rulers, they would give trouble, and it is a symptom of a disquieting nature that such a man as Ortega could muster 3000 men at the outset, supposing these men not to be ignorant of his designs. Dukes and Marshals, Generals and Grand Crosses, who have flourished away in Spain for some years past, entered on their enterprises with a much smaller capital, and made their way much as Ortega meant to have done.

However this may be, the recent insurrection was speedily crushed, and it only served to make apparent the stability of the present Monarch on her throne. It may not be uninteresting to give here an outline of this last effort of the Carlists to revolutionise the country.

It was meant that the insurrection should have exploded in October last, when the army had embarked for Africa. Count de Montemolin, furnished with a French passport, arrived in Paris from Naples, and soon after proceeded to Trieste, to confer with a female member of his family. Some delay occurred in bringing about a reconciliation between him and Cabrera, the Prince having on previous occasions shown but little disposition to share the fatigues and dangers to which he had no objection to expose his followers. The reconciliation was, it is said, brought about by Elio, one of the most consistent, able, and chivalrous of the Carlist chiefs.

As it was, the attempt, as our readers are aware, was not made till the beginning of last month, and then the movement appears to have been premature.

The first step taken was to charter a vessel named the *Huveaune*, at Marseilles, for a month, at the price of 15,000*fr.* Coals to the amount of 15,000*fr.* were to be purchased, and the owners were to receive notice as to the continued hiring of the ship a fortnight before the expiry of the term assigned. Onerous as these terms appear, they were immediately accepted by the hirers, to the great surprise of the owners, who were astonished to see them admitted with so little hesitation. The money was paid down at once. The supercargo of the vessel was sent to ask whether it would be possible to sail on any giving day and at any hour. He was informed that, as all the formalities had been duly attended to, the vessel might go to sea at any hour of the day or night, provided the captain was advised in time. On March 24 it was asked whether the passengers could then be taken, and an affirmative answer being given, during the night of the 25th the captain of the *Huveaune* was directed to get up his steam. At five in the morning the vessel left the port of Joliette with five passengers, three of whom had French passports, and of the other two one had an English one, and the other a Parma one. These individuals, who were evidently persons of high rank, had been waited for at Marseilles by a person recently arrived from Paris. It is most probable that General Elio, Cabrera's brother-in-law, and perhaps also the Count of Montemolin, were two of these unknown personages. On the 25th, the weather being rough, the vessel was compelled to change her course, and made for Certe, where the supercargo, under the pretext of sea-sickness, transferred all his powers to a Spanish refugee, named Cazanova. The *Huveaune* then steered for the Balearic Isles, instead of going direct to Africa to fetch oxen, as had been pretended, where she was placed at the disposal of General Ortega.

What means were employed by the Carlists to gain over General Ortega we do not yet know. Ortega formerly professed ultra-liberal, if not Republican, opinions. In 1843, when but a Captain or Major in a free corps, he was one of the first to join the insurrection planned by the Conchas, Narvaez, O'Donnell, and others against the Government of the Regent Espartero. He raised a band of men in Lower Arragon, and attempted to enter Saragossa, but was beaten off after a few hours' fighting.

When Espartero fell, Ortega was rewarded more for his goodwill than for his actual success, and shared in the multitude of promotions and honours lavished on that occasion. He afterwards entered the Cortes as deputy for some place in his native province of Arragon; but he was generally looked upon, even by his political friends, as a hot-headed person, and one of the least likely to be chosen as the chief of a party. Though turbulent and troublesome, he enjoyed no prestige either as a military or political leader. His appointment as Captain-General of the Balearic Islands can only be explained O'Donnell's wish to keep him out of the way during his absence. That he should have engaged in a mad enterprise from hatred or jealousy of O'Donnell would not surprise any one, but that it should be in a Carlist sense is strange enough. Jaime Ortega, who was comparatively a young man, was not heard of in the civil war, and began to figure only in the successful insurrection of 1843.

The garrison of the Balearic Islands amounted to about three thousand men, who, it is said, were ignorant of Ortega's designs. With these he sailed on board the chartered ship for the coast of Spain, and landed at San Carlos la Rapita, where he proclaimed Charles VI. Colonel Rodriguez Vera, when Ortega's pallor and faltering showed him that treason was meant, was the first to cry "Viva la Reina!" and the soldiers responded to the cry and sent bullets after the traitor. Ortega lacked decision and audacity for the part he aspired to play. When a Colonel



RIFFIAN OF THE SUITE OF MULEY ABBAS.—(FROM A SKETCH BY M. YRIARTE.)

assured that the Generals, officers, and soldiers of her army were ready, if necessary, to die in defence of her throne. The Deputies came in a body, headed by their President, and expressed their devotion to her Majesty and her Government. All the Foreign Ministers waited on the Minister of Foreign Affairs to offer congratulations on the failure of the insurrection, and Queen Christina sent a telegraphic despatch to her Majesty to the same effect. A capitalist named Manzanedo, of Madrid, on hearing of the rising, offered to advance the Government 6,000,000 reals at once, and even larger sums if necessary.

It is our belief that any attempts of the Carlists to renew the civil war in Spain will meet with little chance of success. With very few exceptions the leaders of any eminence in the struggle that desolated the northern provinces of Spain for seven years have disappeared from the scene; some are dead, and many have sworn allegiance to, or taken service under, Queen Isabella's Government. The general officer now commanding the Spanish cavalry in Morocco was at one time a Carlist, and it is certain that Marshal O'Donnell's own brother, General Enrique O'Donnell, who brought the preliminaries of peace to Madrid, profited by the Treaty of Busaco, in 1839, and entered the Queen's service. Don Carlos and Carlism are as little cared for in Spain as the Count de Chambord and his cause are by the mass of the French people.



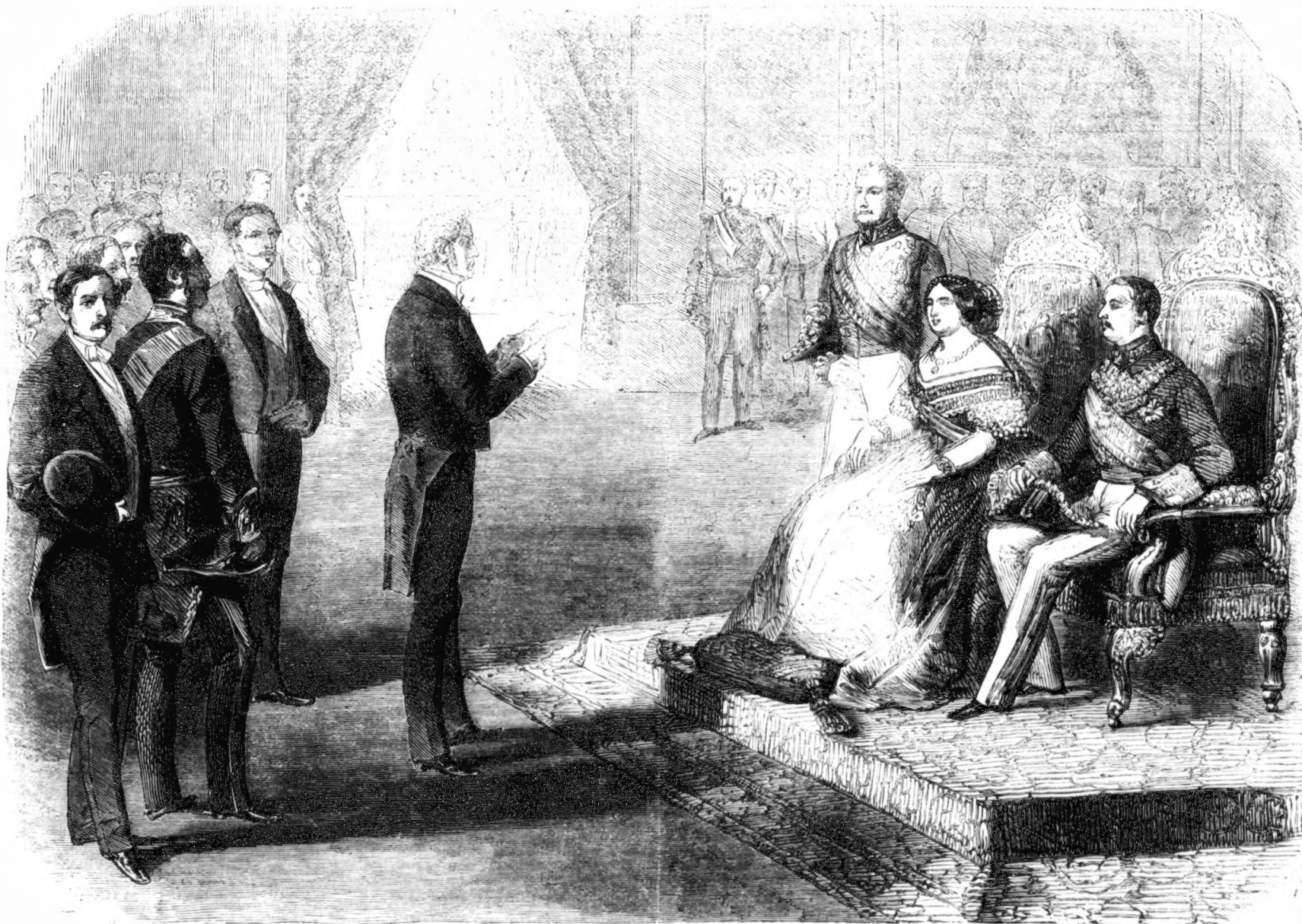
LAKE AND CONVENT ON THE SUMMIT OF MOUNT CENIS.

stepped forward and presumed to question him, saying that the division wished to know whether it was being led, he should have run his questioner through the body, or have denounced him as mutinous, and called upon the officers to arrest him. Such boldness could hardly have failed of its effect, for the troops would have inferred from it that Ortega felt himself in the right, and was sure of support, and this, combined with the habit of discipline and the prestige of his rank, would have awed them into obedience. Such a course would probably have saved Ortega's life, by gaining time for him to reach the frontier.

From the time of his capture to his death Ortega evinced much

courage and conducted himself with great dignity. When incarcerated he was ordered to be searched by a sergeant, and this greatly offended him; his pride was hurt to think that a General should be roughly handled by a non-commissioned officer. From the particulars we have of his death he appears to have met it bravely, himself giving the words "Make ready" and "Present." He then commenced to recite the creed, which was quickly cut short by the volley, and he fell forward on his face without a groan. Thus ended the short career of the most active participator in the late Carlist movement.

The latest news received from Spain informs us that the Queen has granted a general amnesty to those implicated in the rebellion, including Count Montemolin and his brother, on their taking the oath of fidelity to her throne. This much may be acknowledged of modern Spain, that she has grown too wise to tear her own bosom in order to settle mere dynastic feuds. Let her also abstain from unnecessary and senseless foreign wars, like the late barren campaign, and, with her once more awakened industrial and commercial powers, a bright future, envied and threatened by nobody, may yet be in future for her.



PRESENTATION OF AN ADDRESS OF LOYALTY TO QUEEN ISABELLA, BY THE SPANISH DEPUTIES, ON THE OCCASION OF THE LATE INSURRECTION.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 123.

REFORM DEBATE.—SIR EDWARD BULWER LYTTON.

ON Thursday night, when the order for the adjourned debate on the second reading of the Reform Bill stood first on the paper, it was known that Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton intended to deliver an oration, which for several days he had been studying and moulding into form, and hence at an early hour the house was well filled. It will be remembered that when Sir Edward was Colonial Secretary in the Derby Government his health failed, and then very mournful forebodings were whispered in the clubs and lobbies that we should probably never hear Sir Edward's voice again in Parliament. We have, however, now to report, and it is with great pleasure that we do so, that these forebodings have all been falsified, and that the right hon. Baronet is quite well—looks, indeed, better than we have seen him for some years past; further, we notice that he has divested his face of some of the shaggy hirsute disfigurements which he used to delight in; and still again, that he has wonderfully improved in his manner and action. Sir Edward's action whilst speaking used to be most extraordinary, grotesque, and ungainly. He would throw himself backwards until you would imagine that he must fall to his seat, and again would bend his body forward like a dervish performing his devotions. All this he has, however, altered, and his action is modest and graceful to what it was, although it is still much more energetic and various than that of any other speaker in the House, always excepting Mr. Whiteside, whose gesticulation is more extravagant than can be conceived by any one who has not seen that hon. gentleman "on his legs." On the whole, then, Sir Edward as an orator is wonderfully altered. The clipping and singeing which he has undergone has greatly improved his personal appearance, and the moderating of his gesticulation has added considerably to the effect of his delivery. But still there is one fault left, which does and must ever, unless it can be got over, detract from the power and effectiveness of his speaking—we mean the incapacity under which he suffers to modulate properly his voice, so far as modulation means inflecting or varying the tone. Sir Edward has the power of modulation, for the fault which we complain of is that he varies and inflects too much, too violently we may say; for sometimes he shouts out at the top of his voice, and anon he sinks it into something very much like a whisper; and the effect is this—viz., that when he speaks loudly his words at the close of his sentences become merely inarticulate sounds, and when he sinks his voice he is to most of the members, especially to the elder ones, inaudible. The cause of this is not far to seek—the right hon. Baronet is distressingly deaf. Not only is it difficult for him to hear what others say to him, but he cannot hear well what he says to others. Hence it is obvious that it is impossible that he can vary and inflect his voice with that nice perception which is so necessary to an orator. A pianoforte-player might play perhaps effectively, even though he were deaf; Beethoven, we know, did long after he had ceased to hear. But how would it be with a violin-player, who depends upon nicety of ear quite as much as upon delicacy of touch to produce the right sound. It is remarkable that in the gallery we seem to have heard Sir Edward better than the members below, but the reporters there were often grievously at fault, and frequently had to guess at some of the right hon. Baronet's words. More than one member left the House in despair and wandered about the lobby, and when asked why they did not go in, replied that they must read the speech, for they could not hear it.

HIS SPEECH.

It has been over and over again said that this speech of Sir Edward's was "a great speech." "Did you hear Bulwer's speech?" was a question often put during the evening. "Yes; and a magnificent speech it was—the greatest speech which I ever heard him deliver," was generally the reply. "I think," said one enthusiastic Conservative, "that it was one of the greatest speeches that ever was delivered in the House." And in many senses it was "a great speech." It was long, and, in the opinion of not a few, length is an important element of a great speech. It was got up, moreover, with great care. Many hours had, no doubt been spent by Sir Edward over this oration. The topics of the speech were well arranged; the rhetoric was perfect; the sentences were composed with as much care as an Etonian gives to his Latin verses. Every word seemed to have been accurately examined and weighed before it was adopted, and the language was that of an accomplished and long-practised writer; but, when we come to read the speech as we find it in the *Times*, we do not find much that is new in it. It is simply a rehash of old objections to the extension of the franchise elegantly served up. The objections may be true (upon this subject we offer no opinion here), but they are certainly not new. There were no thoughts which hang by you and will not away; nor any of those beautiful illustrations which we find in the speeches of the old masters of oratory, which haunt the memory like some of the melodies of Beethoven and Mozart. On the whole, then, we decide that, if this was a great speech, it was only so for these times, and not for all time: great because it stands out well amongst the vulgar littlenesses which are so common now, but not essentially and truly great.

MR. MARSH'S NOTIONS.

Whilst the cheers which broke out when Sir Edward sat down were echoed and re-echoed through the House, and whilst the members were rushing out in crowds to dinner, struggling and pushing with such hungry earnestness as almost to jam up the doorway, Mr. Marsh, late "sheep farmer on an extensive scale and member of the Council in Australia," arose. Poor Mr. Marsh! Fancy a man rising to address an assembly, half of which was loudly cheering, the other half chattering, and three-fourths on the wing. It was utterly impossible for several minutes to hear a word that Mr. Marsh said; but, when the majority of the members were gone, and the House became tolerably quiet, we discovered that he, too—all "Liberal" as he is—was opposing the bill. Indeed, all, with a few exceptions, seem to oppose it; the Conservatives hate it, of course; but do the Whigs like it more, or the Radicals? Why, even Mr. Edwin James says it is too democratic, whilst Aytton cannot find it in his heart to do more than "damn it with faint praise." There was not much to regret, we fancy, in the loss of the early part of Mr. Marsh's speech, judging from what was heard. It is the opinion of Mr. Marsh that all democracies are warlike; that America is warlike because it is a democracy; and that France is not warlike naturally, nor because it is now governed by a despot, but because its Government is "essentially democratic" (*sic*); and this being so, he opposes the bill, because it is democratic in its tendencies.

THE ATTEMPTED COUNT.

And now came that desperate attempt to count out the House—those "disgraceful proceedings" which have made so much noise in the political world. "The count out" is now an established Parliamentary practice, and an exceedingly useful practice it is when adopted with discretion. For example, when some noted bore has a motion upon the paper which can lead to nothing but a wearisome discussion, without results, it is not only an allowable but surely a most beneficial thing to count him out. But, on the other hand, when really important business is before the House, and especially if it be Government business, it has seldom been deemed consistent with Parliamentary courtesy to attempt a count. Now, is a count under such circumstances good policy, as it seldom results in anything but waste of time and delay. However, when party spirit runs high, members of the rasher sort are apt to forget both courtesy and policy. The object of this move on Thursday night was to bring odium upon the Reform Bill; the move, if successful, would not have defeated the bill, as some suppose, but it would, no doubt, have damaged it, and thrown suspicion upon its authors. "See here!" would have been the cry through the country, "the Government care so little for their bill that they allowed it to be counted out." Who the originators of this plot were we are not disposed to make known; it is sufficient to say that the leaders of the party were not implicated. Indeed, leaders of parties, and other members in a high position in the House never meddle with counts, nor ever appear to sanction them. They may, perhaps, wish for them—be, indeed, very glad of them, and, possibly, "tip the wink," as we say, to others; but, openly, they never take part in them.

COUNT DESCRIBED.

We have more than once described the manner in which a count is managed; but, as this count has made so much noise, we will just run over the description again. When it is notified to Mr. Speaker that there are not forty members present he immediately rises; the gentleman in possession of the House drops into his seat; the clerk at the table turns the two-minute sand-glass; the doorkeeper rings his bells; and if, meanwhile, a sufficient number of members to make up the requisite forty enter in time to be present when Mr. Speaker counts, which he does at the expiration of the two minutes, the House resumes; but if there are then not forty the House is counted out and stands adjourned till the following day.

MANŒUVRE AND GRAND CHARGE.

It was about 7.30 when, on this occasion, a count was attempted. In the House about thirty-five members were present, and Sir James Ferguson was on his legs. In the division lobby, about the door, the conspirators were on the watch. Thirty-five was a number sufficiently low to excite hopes, but not to secure success. What, then, was to be done? Why, an emissary must be sent in to wile away a few more—say ten or a dozen of the Conservatives. This delicate mission was intrusted to a young member somewhat noted for his skill and zeal in such matters. At once he glided into the House and, sidling quietly from member to member, he delivered his message; and with such success that in a few minutes the number in the House was reduced to twenty-three. "Twenty-three is surely a safe number; at all events we will try. Just go in, one of you, and tell the Speaker that there are not forty members present. And now, lads, we must keep the door." Suddenly, then, the Speaker rises; the clerk turns the sand-glass; the doorkeeper rings his bells; and the count is on. Now, in the dining-room there were few more members than were necessary to make a House. Some of these were, it is true, Conservatives, and, probably, up to the move. At all events they would not stir. But beyond these there were Liberals enough; and when the bells rang these jumped up and rushed off to save the House. In ordinary counts there is seldom much difficulty in getting into the House if members are desirous of doing so; but on this occasion the case was different, for the conspirators, knowing what would occur when the bells should be set ringing, had posted themselves in compact phalanx between the outer and inner doors; and it was clear that there could be no passing without a desperate struggle. Shouts of laughter broke from the Conservatives when the Liberals came up and stood with dismay before this compact body, and for a few seconds the game seemed to be in the hands of the conspirators. The two minutes were rapidly passing, the Liberals seemed by no means disposed for a charge, and in a few seconds all would be over. But at this critical moment Mr. Brand, the Government whip, came up. It was his duty to keep the House. His honour was at stake. If he failed the blame would rest upon him. All this he saw in a moment, and, screwing his courage up to the sticking-point, he made the charge gallantly, broke the ranks, and, with some dozen members in his wake, entered the House just as the Speaker rose to count. The struggle, however, was for the moment a very desperate one, and attended by not a little danger. Indeed, it was rumoured afterwards that Mr. Baxter, the member for Montrose, had received a punch in his ribs that threatened to be serious. This, however, turned out to be an exaggeration, though the hon. member, it seems, certainly did (by accident, no doubt) receive a blow that was not at all pleasant. This, then, is the history of this famous attempt at a count. After it was over complaints were made both to the Speaker and the Sergeant-at-Arms. It is the duty of the sergeant, no doubt, to keep the passage clear; but what could one man do in such a case? He could do no more than remonstrate, and if members will not submit to the authority of their own officers it is difficult to see what else can be done. Some stringent regulations might be made to facilitate the attendance of members when a count is called; but as all parties, officers and members, generally look with favour upon counts, it is probable that this business will be allowed to blow over as something so exceptional that it is hardly worth while to notice it further, especially as the attempt did not succeed. There were not a few jokes bandied about during the evening, and one which we heard struck us rather *ad rem*: "I say," said a Radical member to a notable Tory, "is this your horror of Americanising our institution?"

THE GREAT SHAM.

On Monday night Mr. Vincent Scully made a great hit. At the close of the debate he described it as "the great social evil" of the day. And Mr. Vincent Scully, who does not often say anything very good, was right here; more so, perhaps, than he dreamt of. It is probable that he meant by this phrase merely that the debate is a nuisance, but the words describe something worse in the debate than that. It is a nuisance, no doubt, for it stops all business, and will probably lead to no results; but there is prostitution in this discussion—the most awful prostitution—of truth and principle. Some time ago we described the House of Commons as a masquerade; but it was never before so much of a masquerade as it is now. With the exception of some few members, not a man appears in his true character in this question. We mimic, and mouth, and declaim, and perorate upon political objections to the Reform Bill, when the simple truth is that the one objection—that which is uppermost in almost every man's mind, well known, and, if not openly talked about, thoroughly understood—is that, if the bill pass, we shall have a general election in autumn; and hence, and not because of political objections, all the delay and chattering which we have. Talleyrand said once that language was intended to conceal thought; and we have, on this subject, universally adopted the maxim. Would that Lord John would withdraw his bill! For if this thing go on that which the Psalmist "said in his haste" we may say at our leisure—"All men have become liars!"

ENGLISH GRAVES IN THE CRIMEA.—In the House of Commons a few days since Captain Annesley read a letter which had appeared in the *Times* describing the disgraceful condition of the graves of those British soldiers who had fallen at Sebastopol. The letter said:—"Being on a short visit to this place, and feeling very desirous to see the last resting-places of our fallen countrymen, I called on Lieutenant-Colonel Gowen (American contractor with the Russian Government for raising the sunken ships in the harbour) for some information, he being the only person who knew their relative positions, who very kindly offered to accompany me. Our first visit was to Cathcart's hill, where we found the beautiful large black marble cover on the tomb of Sir Robert Lydstone Newman, Captain of Grenadier Guards, had been removed by some sacrilegious hands, doubtless seeking for jewelry or other articles of value. We also found the hinges on the gates partly hacked off, evidently for the paltry value of the copper. I also learn from Colonel Gowen that there had been previously a number of shot and shell placed over and around several of the graves by relatives and friends who had visited the spot; these, together with the large shot surmounting the corners of the wall inclosing the cemetery, and on each side of the gate, are now all gone. We next visited the Artillery graveyard, and discovered that they had also disturbed the tablet from the tomb of Captain W. K. Allix, Aide-de-Camp to General Sir De Lacy Evans. The walls around this cemetery were sadly broken down. We then proceeded to the graveyard of the Naval Brigade, where a ghastly sight presented itself. We found the slabs that covered the grave of Commander Lacon USSer Hammett, of that Majesty's ship *Albion* had been turned over, and the remains of that lamented officer entirely exhumed, the bones, as well as some remaining portions of the uniform, being scattered around the grave, which evidently had been opened a few days before. It was truly a heart-sickening spectacle to behold the last mortal remains of this brave officer lying bleaching in the sun. We then visited several other graveyards, and found them more or less in a very dilapidated state, the walls broken down in many places, and in some instances so much so that even the cattle have been found grazing within the inclosures." Lord John Russell said he had reason to believe that this account was not exaggerated, and a strong remonstrance had been sent to St. Petersburg on the subject.

AN ABSURD STORY.—The *Court Journal* says:—"Hume, the spiritualist, has come to London. He has been for a long time resident in Paris, astonishing the credulous natives there with his spirit manifestations. He 'performed' several times before the Emperor and Empress, and it is gravely related that, on the last occasion, he called up a pale white hand, which glided across the table, took up a pen, and signed the name 'Napoleon the First.' The Emperor and Empress are said to have both reverentially kissed it."

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, APRIL 27.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE REVENUE OF THE DIOCESE OF DURHAM.

LORD DUNGANNON presented a petition from the inhabitants of Darlington complaining of the large amount of revenues abstracted from the diocese of Durham, while little or no regard was paid by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners to the spiritual wants arising from the vast increase of its population, and praying that such measures shall be taken as shall insure the recognition of its just and manifest demands. The revenues of the see of Durham had been larger than those of any diocese in the kingdom, but large sums, he stated, had been withdrawn from them by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners without commensurate provision having been made for the poorer livings of the diocese.

An animated discussion took place upon the subject, in which Lords Grey, Ravensworth, Chichester, and the Bishops of Carlisle, Llandaff, and London took part.

The Charitable Uses Bill was brought up for the second reading, but, on the motion of Lord ABERNETHY, the Bill was ordered to be read a second time that day six months.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

REFORM.—THE SIX-FOUNDERS.—REGISTRATION.

Among the various questions discussed on the motion for adjournment till Monday,

SIR M. FARQUHAR raised one respecting the returns laid upon the table (and often referred to in the debates upon the Reform Bill) of the numbers of male occupiers in cities and boroughs assessed from £6 to £10.

MR. VILLIERS adhered to his repeated assertion of the accuracy of the returns.

SIR J. PAKINGTON observed that all Mr. Villiers must mean was that the returns were correctly copied from the rate book (to this remark Mr. Villiers assented); but this was no answer to the point at issue—the number of the persons who would obtain the £6 franchise. The gross estimated rental was no criterion of the rent actually paid.

MR. HENLEY remarked that the accuracy of the returns was not doubted; the objection was, that the returns did not represent the rent. The discussion of this and collateral subjects ran to a considerable length. In the course of the discussion,

MR. JAMES inquired whether it was intended to introduce any measure to provide for the registration for this year of persons entitled to vote should the Reform Bill pass during the present Session; observing that, as the bill contained no system of registration under the 20th section, there would probably be no registration of the new constituency until 1862.

SIR G. C. LEWIS said he was ready to go into Committee upon the bill as soon as it was read a second time, and to amend it if necessary; but he thought the debates upon the bill would not be abridged by anticipating a discussion of its clauses.

THE ENGLISHMEN IN EGYPT.

SIR C. WOOD, in reply to an inquiry made by Mr. Mildmay, gave particulars of the outrageous conduct of certain persons in passing through Egypt (reported in another part of our paper) and stated that steps had been taken to identify the offenders.

SAVOY.

MR. GRIFFITH asked whether it was intended to consent to the taking possession by France of the neutralised provinces of Savoy until a conference or diplomatic action should have previously determined upon the question as to the manner in which the independence of Switzerland, with reference to those provinces, should be provided for.

LORD J. RUSSELL, observing that the subject was too important to be discussed in an incidental manner, stated briefly that it had been proposed that there should be a Conference of the Powers of Europe, parties to the Treaty of Vienna, limited to a particular question, and that there had been discussions as to what other Powers were to be present, as to the time of meeting of the Conference, and as to the matters to be considered by it. In reply to an inquiry by Mr. S. Fitzgerald as to the state of the neutralised provinces after the completion of the treaty of cession and before the Conference, her Majesty's Government, he said, were of opinion that it was not desirable that there should be a military occupation of the provinces till the Conference had considered the question; but the French Government had a difficulty in assenting to such a proposition. This was a matter of discussion between the two Governments.

CHURCH RATES.

On the order for the resumption of the adjourned debate on the Church-rates Abolition Bill,

MR. WHITESIDE moved to defer the third reading for six months. After examining the evidence respecting the origin of church rates, which showed, he said, the antiquity of the custom, and the manner in which the rates were enforced, by the will of the majority, he asked whether Sir J. Trevelyan, who professed himself to be a member of the Established Church, in proceeding against church rates, intended to break up the parochial system, which, he insisted, was at the foundation of the social system of the country. He cited the testimony of Mr. Bunting, a Wesleyan, on the subject of church rates, who stated that there was a misapprehension as to the number of nonconformists who objected to their payment from conscientious scruples. The opposition to the rates, Mr. Whiteside contended, rested not upon religious but political grounds; the petitions were got up by an organised body and signed by women and by children under ten years of age. It was avowed that the ultimate object was the separation of the Church from the State; tithes were to follow church rates, and even the edifices were to be treated as public property. The House, therefore, had to determine a different question from what had been brought before it at first, now that the instigators of this movement had disclosed their real views and projects.

MR. BRIGHT said he felt indebted to Mr. Whiteside for having infused some new light into this question; but he had not done much to satisfy that great portion of the people who objected to church rates that they should be permanently maintained. Mr. Whiteside had attached extraordinary importance to the opinions of the Wesleyan sect on this question; but the large majority of Wesleyans united with the great body of Dissenters in opposition to church rates. Moreover, no inconsiderable number of regular attendants upon the Church of England joined the Dissenters in the endeavour to put an end to them. There were only two courses with reference to this most mischievous impost, either to leave the law exactly as it was, with all its irritating incidents, or to adopt this bill. In Ireland, the vestry cess—the church rate of that country—had been abolished, and what had been the effect upon the Protestant Church of Ireland? In all human probability, that Church would have been absolutely uprooted but for the large measures of reform applied to it; and the Church of England, without church rates, would be as great and as useful as now. Examples in Wales and in Scotland showed the impulse that might be given to voluntary efforts. Property in Scotland had not gone with the Free Church; yet what a vast result had been produced by religious zeal and munificence! He should slander the Church of England, he said, if he were to pretend that it would not be as liberal as any other religious body, while its congregations would be as united as those of Dissenters, and its action would be greatly strengthened.

MR. DISRAELI invited the attention of Mr. Bright, who had dwelt upon the success of the voluntary principle at Rochdale, to its utter failure at Birmingham. His eulogy of that principle was out of place, for this was not the question before the House, and his illustrations of the principle were illusory. In England the voluntary principle had always been at work. Mr. Bright had asked why the opponents of church rates had increased in the House. He answered that there had been on both sides an anxiety to meet a complaint and remove a grievance; but Mr. Bright had avowed an object of his own. The Church of a nation, he had said, ought not to be supported by a part of the nation. He (Mr. Disraeli) demurred to accepting a bill which converted this abstract opinion into a practical policy. It laid down the doctrine that, because a portion of the nation obeyed the spiritual influence of no particular body, therefore the national Church, the only body that could exercise any such influence, should be abolished.

After a brief reply from Sir J. TREVELYAN, and a few remarks by Mr. T. DUNCAN, who was precluded from moving an amendment of which he had given notice, prohibiting payments towards church rates out of any other rate,

The House divided, when Mr. Whiteside's amendment was negatived by 235 to 226—a majority of 9 only.

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

STOCK-JOBBER.

MR. BOVILL obtained leave to bring in a bill to repeal so much of the statutes relating to stock-jobbing as prevents persons selling and disposing of stocks or other securities of which they are not possessed, which he explained to be intended as only a partial repeal of Sir John Barnard's Act; there would then be two questions before the House—one for a total, the other for a partial, repeal of the Act.

THE JEWS.

The Jews Act Amendment Bill was read a third time and passed.

MONDAY, APRIL 31.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

EDUCATION IN IRELAND.

LORD CLANCARTY moved for a copy of any address in 1859 from the Irish Roman Catholic Bishops to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland regarding the system of National Education in that part of the United Kingdom, with the names thereto subscribed, and for a copy of the answer returned by the

Lord Lieutenant. In the course of a long speech he contended that the results of the system of natural education in Ireland were by no means commensurate with the expenses incurred in promoting it. He thought that the whole question ought to be reconsidered by Parliament.

Lord CORK could not agree with the condemnation passed upon the system of national education by Lord Clancarty.

The Bishop of CASHIEL, while defending the system, read extracts from the reports of the Inspectors of the National Board to show that the state of education in these schools was not very advanced.

Lord CARLISLE said he believed that it was the intention of the Government to adhere to the principles upon which they had uniformly acted in respect to the system of education in Ireland. These principles were, to give as good a secular education as was possible to all who were willing to receive it, and to afford opportunities for receiving religious instruction, without forcing them upon any one. It had been lately the duty of the Government to differ from the views of the Roman Catholic prelates, but he confessed that if any practical suggestions consistent with the principles he had laid down should be made, the Government would give them a deep and serious attention.

Lord LIFFORD said the system had worked well wherever it had been fairly tried, and he was glad to hear the Government did not meditate any change in it.

The Bishop of DERRY said that, although he did not advocate the National system of education solely as a mixed system, he considered it in its results as most beneficial, tending, as it did, to unite Roman Catholics and Protestants.

After a few remarks from Lords Donoughmore and Clancarty, the motion was agreed to.

THE AFFAIRS OF ITALY.

Lord WODEHOUSE, in reply to Lord Clancarty, stated that the Conference regarding the question of Savoy and the affairs of Italy was not yet agreed to, nor was it as yet definitely settled whether it should meet, or when.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE REFORM BILL.

The adjourned debate on the second reading of the Representation of the People Bill was resumed.

Mr. BENTINCK, after noticing the apologetic tone which ran through Lord John Russell's defence of the measure, proceeded to reply seriatim to the arguments urged in that defence. Lord John harped much, he observed, upon the need of settling this great question; but on what possible ground could he hope to settle it by this measure? It had been openly avowed by some of its supporters that they regarded it only as a stepping-stone to further concessions. The bill itself was hardly worthy the name of a Reform Bill; every element of reform was omitted. It proposed to confer the franchise upon a certain number of persons, that class being selected which had fewer means of education and of improvement than any other class. Lord John wished to legislate for reform as if Great Britain consisted only of large towns and railways, the rural districts being entirely ignored. This was, in his (Mr. Bentinck's) opinion, the turning-point of the present question. He contended that not only were the rural districts entitled to a fair share of the representation, but they had a right to a preference over large towns.

Mr. WALTER said he believed the consequences of this bill would greatly disappoint both its opponents and supporters. The question which first occurred was, Why was reform necessary? Certainly not on account of any crying grievances of the working classes, or any that could be removed by legislation. Mr. Bright had alleged that they paid an undue share of the taxation of the country; but it had been proved that this allegation was unfounded. Of direct taxation they paid nothing, and of local taxation next to nothing. Then, what were the reasons? To remove anomalies in the distribution of seats, to extend the franchise to a larger section of the working classes, and—a more important reason—the danger of holding out, year after year, hopes of reform which were not realised. The two main principles of the bill before the House—the child of Lord John's old age—were the representation of minorities and the extension of the franchise. With respect to the former, the scheme, being indirect, might be useful; and the question as to the latter depended upon the degree in which the classes to be admitted to the franchise were qualified by intelligence and respectability. Mr. Walter read passages from the speeches of Mr. Bright at Manchester, full of acrid sarcasms, fierce denunciations, and imputations of the grossest baseness. He (Mr. Walter) did not distrust the working classes, but he did distrust those who addressed such language to those classes.

Lord J. MANNERS insisted that the bill was founded upon erroneous statistics. It would not diminish bribery and corruption; on the contrary, the area in which corrupt influence would operate would be doubled, trebled, quadrupled by it. Sir B. LYTTON had appealed to Lord J. Russell to withdraw the measure, and he trusted he meant to do so. It would be a patriotic course, and he would be safe from any taunts or reproaches on the Conservative side of the House.

Mr. HODGKINSON said that both sides of the House had been pledged to a large measure of reform, and the expectations of the people ought not to be disappointed.

Mr. HOPWOOD urged the withdrawal of the bill.

Mr. CAIRD contended that the bill contained nothing dangerous to the balance of the Constitution. The present constituency numbered one elector to every four householders, and as, according to the most liberal estimate, the bill would add 400,000 to the constituency, the proportion would still be only one in three. He likewise endeavoured to show that the new borough constituency would represent every class of the community.

Mr. COCHRANE said all were agreed upon one most important point—that the bill would not settle the Reform question, that it was only an instalment. Although he had no dread of the working classes, he did dread the influence of those who controlled their movements. He knew the enormous influence which certain men exercised over the working classes, and he illustrated this part of his argument by copious extracts from Mr. Bright's out-of-door speeches (some of which that gentleman, however, repudiated), calculated to excite the feelings of his hearers against the upper classes. He contended that the bill would ultimately affect the financial system of the country—that its effects would throw the taxation upon property.

Mr. P. URQUHART dwelt upon the beneficial changes which had taken place since 1832, as he contended, from the introduction of a popular element into the Constitution; and he argued that this was a reason for adding to that element. Social science had made such progress among the operative classes, he said, that they felt their interest to be involved in attacks upon property.

Mr. DUCANE said the bill was the most dangerous and one-sided the House ever had to deal with, unsettling everything and settling nothing, and in its consequences revolutionary. He pointed out what he considered to be its injurious effects upon the county constituency, in which a pre-eminence would be exercised by house occupiers; while in the boroughs 350,000 would be admitted at the low franchise, outnumbering the other classes of voters, whereby the franchise would be shut up in a narrower compass than by the bill of last year. He urged strenuously what he regarded as a most important branch of the question, and which, he said, had not been sufficiently considered—the danger of making the working-classes, who had shown themselves in the late "Strike" so capable of organisation and combination, a preponderant element in the Constitution.

Mr. CLAY acknowledged that, though he was thankful for the measure, it did not go far enough; and this he attributed to the indifference of the country. The bill was only to be looked at, in his opinion, as an enfranchising measure; and he did not believe that the borough franchise would swamp the educated classes; and the lodge franchise would tend to dilute the new constituency.

Mr. A. MILLS said if from the poor materials of this bill a constitutional measure of reform could be extracted he would be prepared to go into Committee for that purpose. He feared their efforts would fail, and, if so, he should give his decided negative to the third reading of the bill.

Mr. J. LOCKE observed that all that had been promised by Lord John Russell last Session was a £6 borough franchise; the bill provided for that; the compact had therefore been fulfilled; and he argued, from a speech of Mr. Disraeli, that if the late Government had remained in power they would have adopted that franchise expressly to admit the working classes. He denied that there could be any danger in admitting them; but, if the suffrage were thus extended, there should be some machinery to facilitate the voting. In this and other respects the bill was deficient.

On the motion of Mr. Macaulay, the debate was again adjourned.

TUESDAY, MAY 1.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE NAVY.

Lord LYNCHURST asked her Majesty's Ministers for an account of the present condition and probable future progress of the naval reserve. He prefaced his question by commenting on the ignorance which existed in England on the state of the Navy, and proceeded to point out the enormous efforts made by France to create a navy since 1819, when a commission for the reorganisation of the French navy was issued. The avowed object of that commission and that navy was to attack this country, and one of the questions considered by it was how a French navy, with a considerable military force on board, might invade England. What had been done in the meantime by the Government of this country? Alarmed by the growing naval power of France, the Government had, at a great expense, succeeded in forming a Navy equal to that of France. We might even exceed the French naval steam force by a few ships; but, if we were superior, it was only in a small degree. But equality in numbers with the French navy was in reality inequality, because, while their navy was concentrated, ours was scattered in order to protect our distant possessions, to

be equal with France we ought to have double the number of steam-vessels of France, especially as the alleged superiority of our seamen was now considerably modified by the alterations in navigation. But the question arose how were these ships to be manned? The French navy was supplied by the "conscription maritime," so as to occasion no difficulty in dispatching a ship at once to sea; in addition to which the French Government encouraged by bounties the large northern fisheries, from which, in case of war, they would be able to draw a supply of 10,000 men. The force required by this country was a Channel fleet equal to that of France; a home fleet, in case of disaster; a Mediterranean fleet; and a fleet of observation. But we were incapable of manning such fleets; and this inability was perfectly understood by France. He traced the various difficulties which had been always experienced in this country—difficulties which still existed. What, then, was to be done? That was not for him, but for the Admiralty, to decide; but he would remind the Government that, under the new system of warfare, a blow could be struck in a moment; and to strike the first blow would be almost decisive of the war. Adverting to the recommendations of the Royal Commission which had sat upon the subject of the Navy, he examined those recommendations in detail, and highly blamed the Government for not having carried them out in a more prompt and effective manner. Their report had been made in February, 1859, and was one which demanded the most speedy attention; but he believed that not a single man had been raised until the 1st of January last, and instead of the 30,000 men recommended by the Committee, only 800 men, according to Lord C. Paget, had been raised in three months—so that it would take ten years, at that rate, to raise the 30,000 men. The causes of failure, he believed, had been various, but among them he considered that the complication of the regulations, and the smallness of the bounty, might be looked upon as chief. Why, the £6 bounty for the whole 30,000 men would only amount to £180,000 out of £12,000,000 of naval estimates! This saving of money in men and spending it on machinery and material was like making a watch and leaving out the mainspring. It was a penny-wise and pound-foolish economy. The conclusion he came to was, that our naval affairs were in a deplorable condition, and the question suggested itself whether this was due to the Board of Admiralty, the constitution, continual changes, and non-naval chiefs of which he severely criticised. Alluding to the present tendency of our financial policy, to abolish indirect taxation and to diminish the Army and Navy estimates, he pointed out the folly of following such a course, and asked if it were wise to reduce our Navy, while the French navy was increased year by year, purely upon the supposition of always maintaining the friendship of the Emperor of the French, and of establishing, by commercial means, a peaceful feeling between France and this country. He concluded by animadverting in strong terms on the meddling measure of Lord John Russell, which was setting class against class when it was never more necessary that all classes should be united.

The Duke of SOMERSET admitted that the subject was of great public importance, and, in consequence, he was the more eager to refute the impression made by Lord Lynchurst's speech that the present Government had reduced the naval force of the country. During the last eight months more men had been employed in the dockyards, exclusive of the factories, than had ever been employed at any previous period in the history of this country. We had now, exclusive of block-ships and sailing-vessels, 50 ships-of-the-line afloat, 30 frigates, 17 corvettes, 83 sloops, many of large power; 26 small vessels, 24 gun-vessels of a peculiar class, and 350 gunboats. The French had 53 ships-of-the-line and had six or eight more building; 38 frigates, and twelve building; and about 140 sloops. With regard to our naval reserve, the coastguard now numbered 6862 men; and, although it had been suggested to add at once 12,000 more, he thought it would be a great mistake to fill up by new men a service which sailors of the Navy regarded as their own ultimate destination. The Naval Coast Volunteers numbered 7000, and they were in the highest efficiency. As to the Royal Naval Reserve, only 1000 men had been at present enrolled; but as yet the scheme had hardly come into operation. The actual naval reserve at the present moment was 14,850 men, whose services are immediately available in any danger. It was true that the numbers enrolled in the Royal Navy Reserve were not so many as might be desired. Still, he believed that a spirit was rising among the men highly favourable to the service; and this spirit would be still more favourable when they once understood that they were not to be sent out of the country on every petty war, but only to be called upon in case any great European war should arise. There was one point which he would touch upon, and which was one of great importance in considering the question of naval reserves; he meant training up boys for the service of the Navy. This had been done by the present Government, and had been attended with the greatest success.

Lord HARDWICKE was glad to find, from the frank and candid speech of the Duke of Somerset, that the Government had become impressed with the necessity of activity. He concluded his speech with some remarks upon the necessity of impressment in manning the Navy in cases of great need.

Lord COLCHESTER also advocated the passing of a measure to empower Government to impress seamen in case of an European war.

The Duke of SOMERSET, in reply to Lord Stanley of Alderley, stated that the marines would be increased by an addition of 1000 men during the present year. The 6000 men on shore recommended by the Royal Commission to be held ready for embarkation in case of emergency were already enlisted. In regard to impressment, he thought it would be only under circumstances of the direst emergencies that the Government would be justified in recommending such a course to her Majesty.

The L-RD CHANCELLOR briefly stated that there was no doubt that, although the custom had fallen into disuse, the law in regard to impressment was as much in force as ever.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE NAVAL RESERVE.

Sir C. NAPIER moved an address to her Majesty, expressing the regret of the House that, instead of a reserve of 70,000 men, contemplated by the Manning Commission, there exist only 6362 coastguardmen, 1900 district ships' companies, 1400 revenue men, and 600 cruizers' men, and 5000 or 6000 coast volunteers, not to be depended upon; and praying her Majesty to give directions that the coastguard should be completed to 12,000 seamen, as recommended by the commission, ready to be placed in efficient ships at the several ports, instead of the present block-ships, thus constituting a reserve of ten sail of the line, ready for any emergency; that the number of naval volunteers, now under 1000, should be completed as soon as possible, and the other recommendations of the Commission complied with. In the course of a long speech he threw out many hints for improvements of the Navy, and for rendering it popular, accusing the Admiralty, among other shortcomings, of tardiness in adopting his suggestions.

The motion was seconded by Sir J. ELPHINSTONE.

Lord C. PAGET, premising that, in his opinion, the bringing matters of detail connected with the Navy so frequently before the House was very undesirable, asked the House not to agree to the motion, noticing the invidious manner in which the Coast Volunteers were spoken of in it, and maintaining that they were to be "dependent upon." The enrolment of the naval volunteers, in spite of various obstacles, was proceeding satisfactorily, and all the important recommendations of the Manning Commission had been carried out as far as practicable. One of the most important related to boys for the Navy, and the number, which in 1857 was 1898, in 1859 was 5147, and now the number of boys educating for the Navy was 8535, who would become first-rate seamen, and this was considered to be an ample supply.

Sir J. FARRINGTON was glad that the motion had been made, and he hoped it was the intention of the Admiralty to carry out all the recommendations of the Royal Commission.

The discussion was continued by Sir M. Seymour, Mr. Corry, Sir G. Pecheil, Admiral Walcott, and other members, and it ended in the motion being withdrawn.

BRIBERY AT BERTWICK.

Mr. PEEL moved an address to her Majesty to cause inquiry to be made, by the appointment of commissioners, into the existence of extensive bribery at the last election for the town of Bertwick-upon-Tweed.

After an animated discussion, in which several members denied that these commissions were of any good, the motion was agreed to.

Mr. PEEL then moved that Mr. Attorney-General be directed to prosecute William McGail for wilful and corrupt perjury in giving his evidence before the Bertwick-upon-Tweed Election Committee; and this motion was likewise agreed to.

THE CENSUS.

Mr. CARDWELL moved for and obtained leave to bring in a bill for taking the census in Ireland.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT FOR WIFE-BEATERS.

Lord RAYNHAM moved the second reading of the Aggravated Assaults Act Amendment Bill. The main alteration proposed by the bill was that magistrates should have a discretionary power to inflict corporal punishment, and that upon a second conviction such punishment should be rendered compulsory. He assigned reasons why, in his opinion, corporal punishment was imperatively called for in these cases, and met or extenuated the objections to this mode of punishment (which he thought the only effectual means of dealing with aggravated and atrocious assaults upon women and children), and to the clothing magistrates with the summary power of inflicting it. If the House, however, was disinclined to sanction corporal punishment, he would withdraw that part of the bill, which contained other improvements of the present law.

Mr. CLIVE, giving Lord Raynham credit for humane intentions, objected that it was dangerous to allow the punishment of the lash to be inflicted summarily upon adult males by magistrates, and moved to defer the second reading of the bill for six months.

Mr. GRIFFITH thought the bill should go into Committee, and would support the second reading.

Mr. WARNER approved the general principle of the bill.

Sir G. C. LEWIS was not convinced that the present law was ineffectual, or that there had been an increase in this peculiar class of offences; and he believed that increased severity would augment the reluctance of women to come forward and prosecute. He should oppose the second reading of the bill.

Mr. BRADY and Colonel NORTH supported the bill, which was strongly condemned by Mr. CONINGHAM.

After some further discussion, and a reply by Lord RAYNHAM, upon a division, the amendment was negatived by 109 to 85, and the bill was read a second time.

LANDLORD AND TENANT.

Mr. HENNESSY moved the second reading of the Land Improvement (Ireland) Bill. He entered into details to show that Ireland had not made the progress under the free-trade system which had been alleged by Mr. Cardwell, and that there had been a remarkable falling off in the population. The true principle in dealing with this question was, he said, that what was done by usage and practice in England must be done in Ireland by process of law, and that principle had not been carried out by the bill of the Government. He asked the House to affirm this principle by consenting to the second reading of this bill, which contained a clause securing to the tenant a fair compensation for retrospective improvements. He continued his argument in support of his bill, and in opposition to the Government bill, until the close of the sitting, which stopped the debate.

The House adjourned at ten minutes to six o'clock.

THURSDAY, MAY 3.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

SELLING AND HAWKING GOODS ON SUNDAY.

Lord CHELMSFORD, in moving the Committee upon this bill, said its objects were not to compel the people to observe the Sabbath religiously—not to impose any new restraints upon the people—but rather to render the Sunday Trading Act more efficacious, by the enforcement of stronger penalties. His bill had been prayed for by the great majority of those who would be affected by it, inasmuch as it would enable them to enjoy that real tranquillity upon the Lord's Day which they so much desired without any detriment to their pecuniary interests. The measure proposed that, between the hours of nine o'clock a.m. and one o'clock p.m., no shops should be allowed to be open for business or trading purposes; and that no hawking of goods, nor cries for the sale of them, should be permitted throughout the day (with certain exceptions set forth in the bill). Penalties for the breach of any of the provisions of the bill might be recovered by a summary process before any police magistrate.

Earl ST. GERMAIN moved that the bill be committed on that day six months, as he believed, and was informed by Sir Richard Mayne, that it would be perfectly impossible for the police to perform efficiently the duties imposed on them by the bill.

Lord TRENTHAM opposed the bill.

The Bishop of LONDON warmly urged their Lordships to go into Committee upon the bill.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH was opposed to going into Committee, believing that the provisions of the bill were utterly impracticable to carry out.

The Earl of DERRY argued in favour of the bill.

After a lengthened discussion the House divided. The result was a majority of 54 against 25 in favour of going into Committee.

Their Lordships having gone into Committee, it was soon afterwards agreed to postpone the further consideration of the clauses until next Tuesday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

WAKEFIELD ELECTION.

In answer to Mr. E. James, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL said he had given instructions that in the first instance a criminal information should be filed against Mr. Charlesworth and Mr. Leatham, the candidates at the last election, who were the chief offenders, and then against the persons who abetted them.

SAN JUAN.

In answer to Mr. Fitzgerald, Lord J. RUSSELL said her Majesty's Government made a proposition in August last which was refused by the American Government, who stated over again the claim they had previously made. Her Majesty's Government had received a despatch from General Cass, and he did not think that he could lay the correspondence on the table until they had considered their reply to it.

THE REFORM BILL.

Mr. MACAULAY renewed the debate on the Reform in the Representation Bill, directing attention, in the first place, to the necessity of a variety of franchise to an efficient Reform Bill. They wanted to have other statistics than those of the gross number of occupiers before they could form any adequate opinion of the intelligence of the men upon whom they now proposed to confer the privilege of the franchise. He complained of the bill of the noble Lord because it was uniform, instead of various, to suit the exigencies of the various boroughs throughout the country. He was in favour of a multifarious franchise and a multifarious qualification with regard to constituencies themselves. He should like to see a personal test whereby the intelligence of the electors might be ascertained. The hon. member for Birmingham had stated at a meeting in the country that he was in favour of a rating suffrage; but he told the people whom he addressed that he should not hesitate to go with them eventually for manhood, household, or universal suffrage (Mr. Bright, "No!"). Entertaining these views, he should have voted on an amendment if it had been proposed; but he thought the debate had justified the foresight of those who preferred a free discussion to a party division. He sincerely trusted that the Government would reconsider the measure, for it could not be thought that such a bill could be carried with a high hand through Parliament.

Mr. GREGORY (having been called on by the Speaker) said he thought that forty out of fifty members on that (the Ministerial) side of the House viewed the measure with disapprobation and alarm. There were, he thought, more anomalies in this bill than there were in the present system, and that the measure would furnish the advocates of electoral districts with ten times stronger arguments than he could at present use. He objected mainly to the bill because it involved no principle of permanence. He objected to it generally on account of its democratic tendency.

Mr. LONGFIELD also opposed the bill, and was proceeding with his observations when he was interrupted by an attempt on the part of an hon. member to count out the House. In consequence, however, of a rush of members into the House, upon the sound of the bell, the attempt proved abortive, and the debate proceeded.

Mr. DIGBY SEYMOUR defended the right of the working classes to the possession of the franchise.

Sir J. RAMSDEN expressed his regret that the Government had not framed such a measure as would be more likely to command the general support. On the one side of the House the bill was denounced as dangerous, whilst on the other it was condemned for its shortcomings, and was only tolerated as a step towards something of a more decided character.

Mr. WALPOLE expressed his surprise that the noble Lord (Lord J. Russell) should have proposed a franchise that initiated against the known principles of the British Constitution. The measure was one which would enlarge the constituency, but deteriorate the quality. It would place wealth and intelligence at the mercy of poverty and passion—that wealth which employs, and that intelligence which ought to govern.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER vindicated the conduct and consistency of his noble friend (Lord J. Russell) and the Government upon this question of reform. They had now been six nights engaged in the discussion of this measure—a duration of time without precedent in reference to a proposition against which there was no amendment moved. The bill was brought forward in obedience to pledges—pledges, indeed, that had been given by the two great parties in this House. What was the value of those pledges if they did not proceed with this bill, but suffered it to be treated in this manner not only night after night, but week after week? With respect to the bill itself he believed that the apprehensions of its opponents were doubly and trebly exaggerated; and although a great deal might be said in favour of the different franchises that had been suggested, they were, nevertheless, novel, and therefore difficult. He therefore, after the pledges which had been given, after the expectations which had been raised, must warn hon. gentlemen opposite of the danger of further and unnecessary delay. The objections which had been raised with respect to the "lodger" or other franchises were all matters more proper for a Committee, and they could better discuss them at that stage.

The right hon. gentleman ridiculed the fears of those who thought that the £6 franchise would have the effect of deteriorating the constituencies of this country, and contended, on the contrary, that the class of voters created by the bill were, by their position and intelligence, fully as capable of exercising the franchise as independently as many of the shopkeeping electors in our boroughs. 165,000 was the *prima facie* addition which would be given to the present constituency of the country; but a considerable reduction must be made from that number from the nonpayment of rates, migration, and other causes; therefore the apprehensions entertained of the £6 electors becoming so numerous as to swamp the representation of property and station in that House were utterly unfounded and delusive.

Mr. COLLINS, amid the impatience of the House, opposed the bill.

The bill was ultimately read a second time without a division.

The 4th of June was appointed for Committee on the bill.



HEATS OF THE PEOPLE, CHINA AND JAPAN. — (FROM SKETCHES BY LIU-KHANG USOFF, OF THE RUSSIAN NAVY.)

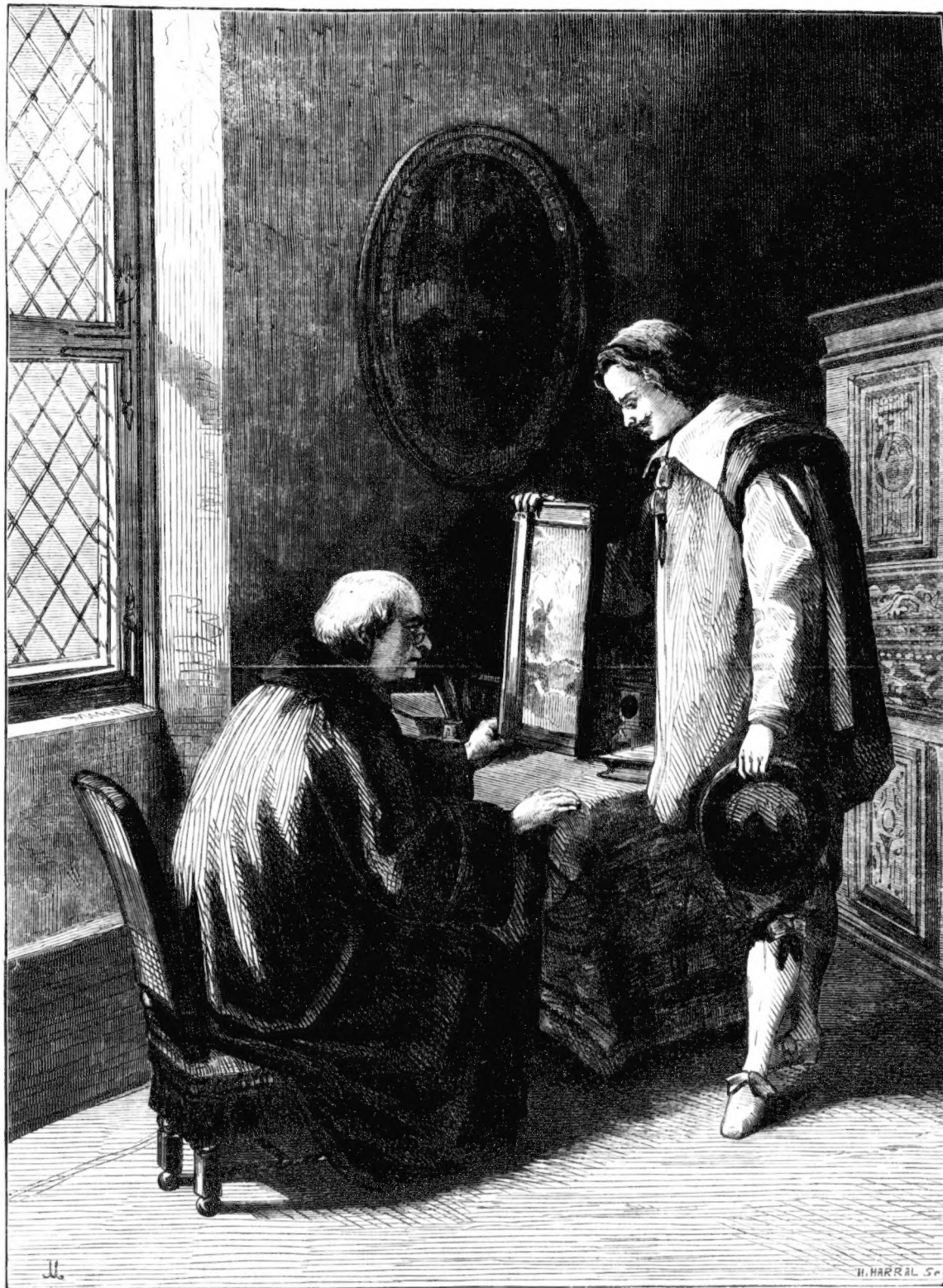
HEADS OF THE PEOPLE. CHINA AND JAPAN.

In the illustration on the preceding page we have character-sketches taken from amongst the population of China and Japan. To prevent confusion we will begin with those that illustrate the inhabitants of China:—

Nos. 1, 7, 9, and 10 in our Engraving are types of the Shanghai beggars. Shanghai, above all cities in China, is particularly infested with mendicants, and in 1850, in consequence of a severe famine in the interior, the town and environs were haunted by thousands of them. They covered the face of the country round about like locusts. To relieve the distressed multitudes charities were established. The rich gentry and the middle classes all united in the good work—opening subscriptions and grain stores. But not the least important and effective was a temporary asylum got up by the native gentry of Shanghai, solely for the shelter and support of destitute children.

Though this asylum was but temporary, we will give some description of its management and arrangement. The range of buildings which composed it was run up in a few days, extending over four acres of land. It was divided into one hundred apartments, all on one floor; some fifteen feet square, some thirty feet. They were flagged below, where the children ate and played; had lath partitions, and were fitted up with sleeping compartments, raised a few feet above the ground. The number of children amounted to 2000, one-third of them girls. Each child was well clad and seemed well fed. A ticket was put on each, and a minute registry kept of the place from which the child was brought, so that on the breaking-up of the asylum it might be restored to its proper guardians. They were portioned off in twenties for each compartment, and placed under an aged matron, who had the charge of their food, clothing, medicine, &c. The average ages were between three and ten. Wherever the little sufferers were found they were taken up and minutely questioned as to age, surname, and parents. This act of benevolence on the part of the Shanghai natives was suggested by foreigners. It was set on foot by themselves, encouraged by the local magistracy, and carried out by the united effort of a kind-hearted public. The charitable disposition manifested by the Shanghai people during the 1850 famine may possibly have attracted the multitude of beggars always to be found in the streets of the city, or crouched beneath mats under the shadow of the walls.

Early in the morning, no sooner has the bustle of business begun to wake up the town, than bands of blind, lame, and scurvy beggars enter in Indian file, and divide off at certain points, in gangs, to press their claims on the pity and purses of shopkeepers and householders.



VANDERNEER SHOWING HIS FIRST PICTURE TO A CONNOISSEUR.—(FROM THE PAINTING BY L. RUIPEREZ, IN THE FRENCH EXHIBITION.)

Besides vocal music, playing on instruments is also called into use by these pilgrim-beggars, in order to call the attention of passers-by, and dispose them to the exercise of charity. On approaching, you are flattered and entreated. Should your hand move quickly and be liberal ten thousand blessings are lavishly poured on your happy head, but ill-luck to the hard heart and hand that withhold a cash.

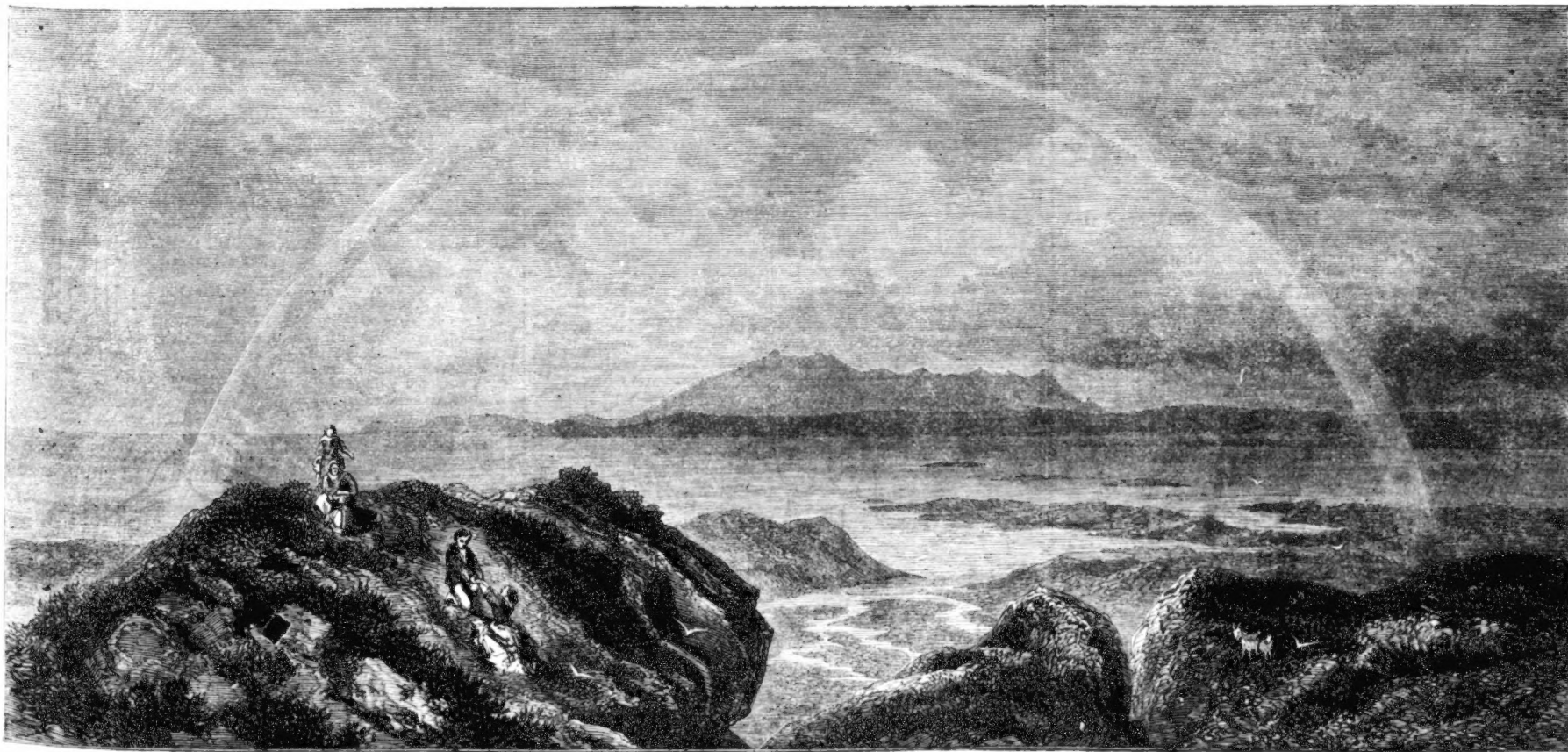
Liberal almsgiving is not unusual in China. At Canton a rich lady, during the cold weather of 1832, distributed 500 warm jackets among the aged and infirm poor of the capital; and at Shanghai it is no uncommon thing, in the depth of winter, to find a merchant or some benevolent family, or a committee of natives, subscribing to supply the destitute with clothing, and get up "kitchens" for boiling rice and tea, to be distributed by tickets among the poor multitudes.

No. 15 is a Shanghai shoemaker, of whom there are plenty, the town being a kind of Chinese Northampton; large quantities of shoes being manufactured for all the northern portion of the empire.

No. 11 is a waiter at a Chinese café. These cafés are large shops appropriated to tea-drinking. On the floor of the rooms stand square wooden tables, with benches and chairs sufficient to accommodate four or six people; and at the further end there is the kitchen, with ovens and stoves duly arranged, and bearing huge kettles, massive teapots, monster cauldrons as large as yourself, all filled with hot water. Usually there is a goodly staff of waiters moving about, vigilant in their attention, carrying small trays, with teacups of the warm decoction and plates of cakes and dried fruits, &c. Less than a farthing will obtain a refreshing cup of comfort. At every hour, morn and evening especially, the rooms are crowded. There is no prohibition of tobacco-smoking or gambling, but the reverse. Labourers and passengers are constantly dropping in for such appropriate conveniences as are offered in the shape of basins of warm water and rough towels for washing hands and face.

Often music is conducted within, and much like resorts of the same class in Europe, the tea-drinking houses in China form the evening refuges of the working-classes for news and gossip, amusement or recreation. Accordingly, at that hour you may see whole tables of visitors occupied in dice-playing and other games. Besides, it is not uncommon for disputants to refer their quarrels to a "tea-shop assembly," and cases of libellous slander have been known to have been taken by the plaintiffs to a gathering in a tea-drinking establishment for adjudication.

The common mode of "making tea" among the "tea-drinkingest people on the face of the earth" is simply to put into a cup as much tea as you can pinch up with your fingers, pour upon it water at the boiling point, and cover the cup.



THE ISLE OF SKYE FROM ARLSAY, INVERNESS-SHIRE.—(FROM THE PAINTING BY A. P. NEWTON, IN THE OLD WATER-COLOUR GALLERY.)

The beverage is then sipped at pleasure, and a second edition obtained by repeating the application of boiling water. If the attendance of the waiters in our taverns was half as good as the attention received from the servants in the Chinese "tea-shop," there would be little for testy old gentlemen to grumble at.

The remainder of our characters are taken from among the Japanese: No. 2 is a Japanese Priest, and the following is a description of one of their temples to Buddha. "The entrance was by an avenue paved with jasper, 400 feet by 300. On each side, at equal distances, were posts of jasper, on which were placed lamps lighted at night. At the end of this passage was the peristyle of the temple, ascended by several steps, and having on the right a monastery of priests. The principal gate was incrustated with jasper, and overlaid with gold and silver ornaments skilfully wrought. The nave of the temple was supported by lofty columns. There was a choir, as in European cathedrals, with seats and gratings all round. Male and female choristers chanted the prayers, much in the same manner as in Roman Catholic churches; the costume of the former was very similar to that of a French abbé, except that the train of their robe was excessively long. Their head-dress worn in the street was ridiculously large, and shaped much like a meal basket. This temple was one of the largest in Japan; it contained 2600 gilt bronze statues of gods, each in his own tabernacle, and served by his own especial priests."

No. 4 is a Japanese Girl, and No. 6 a Japanese Boy. Immediately on the birth of an infant in Japan, whether boy or girl, it is plunged into a bath, and remains free from all swathing and clothing that could impede the growth or development of body or limb. Upon one occasion only is this early state of freedom interrupted, and that occasion is the bestowing a name upon the new member of society. This takes place upon the thirty-first day of a boy's age, on the thirtieth of a girl's. Upon the appointed day the babe is carried in state to the family temple, the servants follow, bearing a whole infantine wardrobe, by the abundance of which the father's wealth and dignity are estimated. Last in the procession walks a maid-servant with a box in her hand, containing money for the fee of the officiating priestess, and a slip of paper on which are inscribed three names. These names the priestess submits, with prescribed rites, to the God to whom the temple is dedicated, then announces which of the three is selected, and confers it on the child, whom she sprinkles with water. The infant is then carried to the house of the father's nearest kinsman. He presents it with a bundle of hemp, destined symbolically to spin it a long life, talisman, relics, and other valuables, to which he adds, if his new-born relation be a boy, two fans (as representatives of swords), implying courage; if a girl, a shell of paint, implying beauty.

In the unconfined state above described the child continues for three years, at the expiration of which the clothes are bound at the waist with a girdle, and the child is now taught to pray. At seven years old the boy receives the mantle of ceremony, and—what could hardly have been surmised, from the great importance apparently attached to the choice of the name given the baby—a new name. After the reception of the mantle of ceremony a boy is permitted to perform his devotions regularly at the temple.

At school boys are taught arithmetic and the whole mystery of the *Hava-Kiri*, literally meaning "happy dispatch," but which is the proper appellation of the abdomen-ripping by which a well-born man is often compelled to terminate his existence. They are taught, not only the proper mode of performing the operation and the several accompanying ceremonials, varying with the occasion and with the consequent publicity or privacy, but also the nature of the occasions—that is, of the causes and situations which render this form of suicide imperative upon a gentleman.

Girls, in lieu of this fearful indoctrination, receive lessons in the craft of the needle, with every species of ornamental work in the service and management of a house, and in whatever it is thought may be useful to them as mothers and mistresses of families.

At fifteen, education is deemed complete. The boy, as of man's estate, now takes his place in society. His head is shaved in Japanese fashion, and again he receives a new name. But, even this third name is not destined to be permanent. Upon every advance of official rank—and half the Japanese above the working-classes appear to hold office—the placeman takes a new name. No. 12 is a sketch of an Official of Nagasaki. At fifteen a girl marries, and does not go to her future home quite empty handed. Besides sending a few presents to the bridegroom in return for his magnificent gifts, the parents of the bride, after ceremoniously burning their daughter's childish toys, in token of her change of condition, provide her a handsome trousseau, and bestow upon her many articles of household furniture—if the word "many" can apply to articles of furniture, when the handsomely-matted floor answers the purposes of chairs, tables, sofas, and bedsteads.

Nos. 13 and 14 are respectively "A Young Japanese Gentleman," and "A Boy of Hakodadi." No. 5 shows the Japanese mode of carrying children; and No. 8 the winter costume worn by the people. It is a large cloak, lined with fur, and with a hood attached, to be drawn over the head.

No. 16 is a Japanese Custom-house Officer, of whom there are numbers. It is almost impossible to smuggle prohibited goods into the country, so close a watch is kept, and all persons that arrive, as well as merchandise, are so strictly searched that the hundred eyes of Argus might be said to be employed on this occasion. When any European goes ashore he is first searched on board, and afterwards as soon as he comes on shore. All the Japanese that go on board ship are in like manner searched, excepting only the superior orders of banjos. All articles exported or imported undergo a similar search. The beds are frequently ripped open, and the feathers turned over. Iron spikes are thrust into the butter-tubs and jars of sweetmeats. In a cheese a square hole is cut, in which part a thick pointed wire is thrust into it towards every side. Their suspicion goes even so far as to make them break open eggs. Thus it will be seen that smuggling in Japan is next to impossible.

No. 3 is a Portrait of Lieutenant Ussoff, to whose pencil we are indebted for these characteristic sketches of Chinese and Japanese people.

"VANDERNEER SHOWING HIS FIRST PICTURE TO A CONNOISSEUR."

A LARGE number of French and Belgian artists have of late years derived their subjects from the lives of the painters. Doubtless the proper study of the artist is Art; but, in France and Belgium, a notion seems to have sprung up that the proper study of Art is the artist. "Charles V. picking up Titian's Paint-brush" has long been a favourite subject with artists of all nations—tending, as it naturally does, to the glorification of their class. "Tintoretto Painting the Portrait of his Daughter, who has just Expired," is in itself a fine picture; and its realisation on canvas has often been undertaken with success. "Salvator Rosa Painting among the Brigands" has also inspired more than one artist, commencing with Salvator Rosa himself, who, for all we know to the contrary, invented the legend; and, as long as the lives of painters present dramatic or picturesque incidents, they may doubtless be studied with advantage by other painters in search of appropriate subjects. We are inclined to think, however, that the mine which once existed in the pages of Vasari and his continuers is now quite exhausted; and we find that those of our modern painters who look to pictorial history for their ideas have to put up with ideas of a very trivial kind. The artist whose "Vanderneer Showing a Picture," &c., we this day engrave paints so effectively that his work by any less specific name would probably please as much. But the real nature of his subject suggests to us a great many others, which we have no doubt will be painted in time, even if the young French artists of the vicinity of the Odéon and of the Boulevard Mont Parnasse have not executed them already.

An artist exhibiting his own picture is, it is true, a fair pictorial subject, and the work we have engraved shows how much can be made of it; but the private lives of great artists have been so much drawn upon and painted from of late years that there is no saying what everyday

and commonplace incidents of a painter's life may not soon be recorded in colours. Poussin purchasing a pencil, Raphael paying his rent, Leonardo da Vinci settling accounts with his landress, are subjects that more than one Belgian artist might treat without laying himself open to the charge of inconsistency; and, among the French, as M. Courbet has already painted himself smoking a pipe, and as Horace Vernet's atelier has more than once been made the subject of a picture, we do not see why M. Meissonier should not be represented being measured for a new coat, or Mdlle. Rosa Bonheur bargaining with a butcher for the right of painting an unusually fine ox.

"THE ISLE OF SKYE FROM ARASAIG, INVERNESSHIRE."

LAST year one of the most admired pictures in the gallery of the Old Society of Painters in Water Colours was Mr. Newton's "Ben Nevis;" and Mr. Ruskin was so much struck by the truth and beauty of the work that he expressed a wish to see the great Scotch mountain painted by Mr. Newton from every possible point of view. Most visitors to the present exhibition, which was opened to the public last week, will look anxiously for some specimens of Mr. Newton's talent for depicting mountain scenery, and fortunately he has contributed more than one, the Highlands again furnishing the subjects. "The Isle of Skye, from Arasaig, Inverness-shire," of which we publish an Engraving on page 279, is perhaps the most remarkable of these. The view is, indeed, a magnificent one, and it is rendered with such unmistakable fidelity that on looking at it the spectator scarcely knows whether it is the grandeur, the tranquillity, and the sublime wildness of the scene, or the qualities displayed by the artist in his manner of presenting it, that he most admires. Mr. Newton has passed a large portion of the last two years in the Highlands; and any one of his great works, such as the "rainbow picture" engraved by us, represents the careful, studious labour of many months.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, MAY 5, 1860.

RESPECTABLE VILLAINS.

THE gigantic fraud committed upon the Union Bank by the respected Mr. Pullinger has called attention again to one curious branch of our social morality. We have learned, to begin with, from "S.G.O.," that frauds of the kind in question are commoner than anybody supposes, though on a scale, of course, far below that just mentioned. But one feature distinguishes them all: the rogue in a pre-eminently decorous rogue. Now, this helps us to understand what is the ideal of the age. The rogue of every epoch reflects its favourite virtue in a very queer way. In the seventeenth century here he mimicked the Puritan; in the eighteenth, he aped the Methodist. This was a kind of compliment, no doubt, to the honest men of those sects, being an act of that well-known "homage" of Rochefoucauld's which vice pays to virtue. And it to a certain degree enables the moralist of each generation to study its special type of virtue. Now, our kind is neither Puritan nor Methodist; it makes less demand on the hypocrite in point of self-denial, though not less demand on him for another easier species of acting. This is a decorous, or, to use the commoner word, a respectable age. The tradesman-like virtues are in fashion. An external appearance of quiet, of solidity, of punctuality, is demanded from men. The rogue may, indeed, maintain a certain splendour, if he is reputed rich; but it must be splendour of an established or orthodox kind, and must be accompanied by soberer merits. Redpath, for instance, was charitable with money—one of the most really creditable features of the age—and he patronised painting, which is much more fashionable than it used to be. Pullinger seems to have approached closer still to the ideal, by not making himself too conspicuous in any way. For, though decorum is not violated by a certain splendour in an aristocratic country, still plainness is even better liked. To come down to the office in a tandem, for instance, would ruin the most cunning rogue, though it might not really be an act of extravagance in relation to his means. We like a simpler style. We are for doing everything quietly. Our profligates are really no more moral than their grandfathers, but they manage their profligacy much better. The Duke of Grafton in Junius's time took his mistress openly to the opera. No Prime Minister dare do such a thing now; but there are mistresses extant all the same. There are still cakes and ale, but then we take them in quiet corners. It is because our vice is so decorous that Sir Cresswell Cresswell's court "astonishes" people by its revelations. There is nothing worse than those revelations in Hogarth's "Marriage à la Mode." But if Hogarth were alive now he would be hooted for painting those pictures. Men accuse Thackeray of libelling human nature, and then go home and practise all the meannesses for which he satirises them. Authors do not attack each other as Churchill attacked Bishop Warburton, but neither will it be pretended that they love each other any more now than then.

We might illustrate these peculiar characteristics of the time from many other social departments. Why does a Duchess pet negroes and "evict" Highland cotters? Because philanthropy is a sleek, fashionable virtue, while the negro-worshipping form of it is more popular than the obscure troublesome task of doing justice in a Highland property. So, too, with the vices. Open extravagance of any sort—public criminality of any kind—is justly reprobated. But the cowardly and sneaking vices—bullying inferiors, cutting poor relations, toadying the rich, betraying friends, &c.—were never commoner, and pass with comparative impunity. They are much more compatible with the required ideal of a public, decorous quiet than the manlier sins. You had better swindle your orphan ward out of her inheritance than come drunk into the drawing-room after dinner.

All this the rogues of the epoch very well know, and the respectable villain is fast taking his place as an established type of society. So deep is the respect for the outside of the character that, as in the case of Pullinger and his bank, he may go on for years undetected without any of the ingenuity which we expect from great criminals. Pullinger seems to have robbed the directors under their very noses. This would seem to indicate—what rotten gun-boats and stinking provisions inclined us to

believe before—that, even where honest in intention, the bourgeois talent is not so great in degree as its admirers say. It is very well to tell us that decorum is a sign of such solid qualities as industry, punctuality, &c., and that these frauds under its mask are occasionally inevitable; but, grant that the rogues are only a few, what negligence does it not imply in the honest folk to allow themselves to be duped by them! At least let these latter begin to comprehend that external respectability may be valued too highly, that smoothness on the surface may only be a sign of a man's being a rogue in grain.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN held a Drawing-room on Saturday, the second of the season.

PRINCE ALBERT has presented to the Lancashire and Cheshire Institutional Association a box of books on cottage economy, domestic and sanitary regulations, rural architecture, agriculture, &c.

PRINCE CZARTORISKI, brother to the Prince of the same name living at Paris, died a few days since, at Vienna, aged sixty-seven. The deceased Prince had claims to the throne of Poland.

THE ORGAN late the property of the Polytechnic Institution has been sold to the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's Cathedral for £1050. The original cost was upwards of £3000.

EXPERIMENTS were lately made, in the Polygon of Vincennes, with a new and improved rifled cannon, said to be of extraordinary power and of precision beyond what is now attained in the French artillery.

IN THE FOUR LINE-OF-BATTLE-SHIPS belonging to the division of the Channel fleet at Spithead there are now vacancies for eighty-nine petty officers.

MR. JOSEPH MILLER has bequeathed to the Institution of Civil Engineers the munificent sum of £5000.

THE REV. DANIEL WORTH, a Methodist preacher, has been convicted in North Carolina of circulating Helder's "Impending Crisis," an anti-slavery work, and sentenced to a year's imprisonment.

M. THIERS, it is said, is about to visit the field of battle of Waterloo, to prepare materials for the 18th volume of his history, which will comprise the Hundred Days.

THE VALUE OF WRECKED PROPERTY saved by the Coastguard amounts for the year 1859 to a sum of upwards of £800,000, and the number of persons rescued by them from a watery grave during the same period to no less than 1250.

MR. GLAISTONE has consented to withdraw that part of his budget which imposed a stamp duty upon Benefit Building Societies.

CHINESE IMMIGRANTS continue to arrive in large numbers at Demerara, and it is gratifying to learn that many take their families with them.

MR. MAURICE DRUMMOND, of the Treasury, has been appointed Receiver of the Metropolitan Police district, on the retirement of Mr. Wray.

AT THE SALE OF THE LATE MR. HENRY FORD'S MUSICAL LIBRARY, a few days since, a violoncello, ascribed to Stradivarius, but more probably by Rugerius, was sold for 100 guineas.

THE SATIRICAL JOURNAL OF TORIN, called the *Campanile*, has been condemned to two months' imprisonment and a fine of 300*l.*, for publishing disrespectful articles against the Emperor of the French.

THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF ST. PETERSBURG is about to send a scientific expedition to the newly-subjected districts of the Caucasus, which are but little known to Europeans.

A MAN named SODERUS has been condemned at Munich to twelve months' imprisonment for endeavouring to enlist Bavarians for the service for the Pope.

LORD CLYDE has been relieved of his command in India, and may be expected in England earlier than was anticipated. It is probable his Lordship will arrive in England next July.

MR. WILKES, editor of the New York *Spirit of the Times*, who came over here in the capacity of backer to Heenan, and Dr. Rawlings, who came over to report the fight, were presented to the Queen the other day at the levee! Mr. Heenan himself will claim his right to that honour shortly, we believe.

THE COUNTESS OF MANSFIELD expired on Sunday at her residence, Langham House, in her eighty-seventh year. Her Ladyship, who was the fifth daughter of the late Dr. William Markham, Archbishop of York, married, in 1797, the third Earl of Mansfield, who died in 1840.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR has appointed Alfred Hudson Shadwell, Esq., to be Taxing Master of the Court of Chancery, in the room of Mr. Martineau, deceased.

THE ADMIRALTY have at length ordered the long-anticipated augmentation of the Royal Marine force by an additional company to each division, and one company to the Royal Marine Artillery.

THE AMERICAN AMATEUR AQUATICS have been challenged by the gentlemen amateurs of Oxford, Cambridge, and London, to compete with them in an eight-oared race, to take place about the end of August, the course to be from Putney to Mortlake, on the river Thames.

MRS. WHATELY, the wife of his Grace the Archbishop of Dublin, died at Hastings on the 25th ult.

THE IRISH are determined to number among their race all the celebrities, and now claim the French General Lamoricière as a Kilkenny man. The *Kilkenny Moderator* states, on the authority of one of the General's school-fellows, that he was born in 1806, in the "Islands of Urlingford," his real name being Morrissey.

MR. ASHWIN, a clerk in the County Bank at Cheltenham, recently absconded, but soon found himself under arrest. The charges against him go beyond mere swindling, and approach the graver offence of forgery.

COLONEL THE HON. ST. GEORGE FOLKE, C.B. Military Secretary, has been appointed her Majesty's Commissioner at the head-quarters of the French army in China.

SOME NORFOLK FARMERS, pressed by the scarcity of root-food for cattle, have been using hay and straw made into chaff and soaked in molasses and water for five or six hours.

A MEETING was held on Tuesday, at the rooms of the Society of Arts, of a number of gentlemen interested in the opening of a road to connect the north and south sides of Hyde Park. This is much required for the public convenience, and we trust the promoters will be successful.

M. DE LA ROCHEFOUCAULD, who has offered the Pope twelve rifled cannon for his army, asked permission of the Minister of War to purchase them in the French arsenals. Marshal Randon replied that the Government neither gives nor sells cannon.

AN EXPLOSION OF FIREDAMP occurred at the Vorsten Colliery, near Frome, a few days ago, by which three men lost their lives, and a fourth was so much injured that his life is despaired of.

THE SON OF THE UNFORTUNATE GENERAL ORTEGA, after having petitioned in vain for his father's life, has left Spain for Rome, to take service under General Lamoricière.

THE GOVERNMENT, we hear, have signified their willingness to negotiate for the *Great Eastern* to take out the telegraphic cable about to be laid between Singapore and Rangoon.

THERE IS A TALK OF A JOURNAL IN THE FRENCH LANGUAGE being brought out in Rome, with M. Louis Veulliot for editor.

PROFESSOR AGASSIZ is suffering much from a disease of the eyes, the effect of which is to retard the scientific labours on which he is engaged.

THE DUKE OF TREVAN lately made a present to the Emperor of Morocco of a Saragossan mule, richly caparisoned and loaded with cigars, sugar, and coffee, the produce of the Isle of Cuba.

THE STATE APARTMENTS OF WINDSOR CASTLE are now open to the public. PROVISIONS are now being carried to Gibraltar, after a lapse of six months, from Tangier, where the markets have been re-established.

BETWEEN 2000 and 3000 working men of Devonport and Stonehouse have presented a silver vase, valued at £200, to Mr. Ferrand, formerly M.P. for Knaresborough, who has been a candidate for Devonport three times since 1859.

M. GUIZOT is reported to have remarked lately on the subject of the annexation of Savoy:—"The good fortune of Napoleon III. makes one almost doubt even of the genius of Napoleon I." "This observation," says the *St. Petersburg Gazette*, "created a certain sensation, and was even repeated in the salons of the Tuileries."

PRINCE CHIGI, Colonel of the Papal Guard, has tendered his resignation in order to take service as a simple gunner.

AT A RECENT SITTING OF THE HANOVERIAN DIET the Military Committee moved that the plan proposed by Government for the fortification of the coast should be rejected, and the necessary supplies refused.

THE STATES OF NASSAU have adopted a motion, proposed by a bishop, that the gambling establishments in the great watering-places of that Duchy (Wiesbaden, Ems, &c.) should be done away with.

A FUNERAL CEREMONY has been gone through at Pesth, attended by a very large concourse of people, in commemoration of that unfortunate benefactor of the Hungarian nation, Count Szecsenyi.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

WHEN Mr. Disraeli announced that he should not divide the House upon the second reading of the Reform Bill it was resolved by the Conservatives to adopt the policy of delay. Not only was every possible objection to be offered to this bill, but to every bill of importance before the House. By this policy it was hoped that they should be able to push the Government into a corner, and ultimately to force it to withdraw the bill, or, at all events, to keep it so long in the Lower House that the Lords might have an excuse for summarily dismissing it on the plea of want of time. The move has hitherto been eminently successful, and if it should be as pertinaciously persisted in as it has hitherto been will probably be triumphant. We have now arrived at the middle of the Session, and for many years past the public business has not been so behindhand as it is now. Very few votes in Supply have been taken; none of the Civil Service Estimates have been considered; and soon the Government will be very seriously embarrassed by this goes on. Bills of the greatest importance—the Bankruptcy Bill, and several of Mr. Gladstone's financial measures, for example—are hung up with at present but small prospect of being taken down. "Talk, talk, talk, on every subject talk," has been the motto of the Conservatives. "Do you oppose the bill?" asked one of the party, touching some measure coming on. "No," was the reply, "but of course we must talk about it: we must make a night of it, at least." Some of the party, however, I understand, some of its older members, are getting dissatisfied with the policy, and think that it is not quite an honourable mode of meeting a grave question. I know one respectable old county gentleman who has expressed himself very strongly upon the subject, and has declared that this stoppage of all public business, even the granting of supplies, is not worthy of a great and strong party.

The division on church rates last Friday, when the majority for the bill was brought down to nine, must be taken, I think, as a sign that a serious reaction has set in. The Dissenters, in explanation, point to sixty absentee friends; but why were they absent? They were informed that a division would be taken and earnestly exhorted to attend. Their absence, I think, proves the reaction quite as much as the presence in such numbers of the opponents of the bill. The cause of this change to me is very plain. I believe it is entirely owing to the evidence given by certain Dissenters before the Lords' Committee. These gentlemen openly avowed that the abolition of church rates was to be only a stepping-stone to still further and far more important changes—in short, to the entire separation of the Church from the State. This was a most indiscreet avowal, and has, I have no doubt, produced the reaction. And it was all the more indiscreet because it could do no good, and further because, as I verily believe, the gentlemen who made it do not represent the feelings of the great body of the English Non-conformists. However, the avowal has been made, and the Dissenters must take the consequence of putting their cause into the hands of indiscreet men. If their staunch friend Sir John Troland had been left to manage the matter in his own way he would soon have succeeded; but the rashness of a few zealots for an impossible abstraction has well-nigh ruined a good cause.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES.

The current number of *Blackwood* will fail to create an impression that the old-established magazines are endeavouring successfully to contend with their younger brethren. Its contents are unusually heavy, and what light matter there is lacks point and spirit. The opening article, "War and Progress in China," is sensible and well-informed, bearing internal traces of its official origin, and coming, doubtless, from the pen of Mr. Lawrence Oliphant. The second is purely an art-paper, "Munich and its School of Christian Art," but will be found interesting to the general reader from the admirable summary of Munich and its pretensions with which it opens. Captain Speke, already favourably known to readers of *Maga*, contributes the first portion of his "Adventures in Somali Land," pleasant travel-papers, spirited and adventurous, and told with a genial egotism and self-sufficiency which are amusing, and, oddly enough, not offensive. Under the head of "Judicial Puzzles," we have a closely-arranged summary of the story of Elizabeth Jennings, with its direct contradictions and opposed testimony, a story not new to many readers, but here clearly and tersely set forth. In addition to these papers there is a review of "The Mill on the Floss" (impartial enough, considering that the book and the magazine belong to the same publisher); two sets of verses, "Narcissus" and "The Snowdrops," of certainly not more than average merit; a translation of a French feuilleton, unworthy of a place in an English high-class magazine; and an indignant and minority article on the recent French annexation.

A capital number of the *Cornhill*. The new instalment of "Framley Parsonage" is a great stride in advance. In his sketch of Crawley, the struggling clergyman, Mr. Trollope has shown that he can be something better than merely an "amusing" or a "graphic" writer, and the description of the interview between Mr. Crawley and the erring Mark Roberts is the work of a Christian and a gentleman. Capital, too, is "Love, the Widower." Mr. Thackeray revels in the pother of the narrator of the story and in his self-excuses; and even that great hand has never lianed a more contemptible character. There is a very graceful, pretty paper on "Little Scholars," said to be written by the eldest daughter of the editor; and an excellent letter from "Paterfamilias" on the folly of the system of education at present pursued at our most renowned public schools—the contempt displayed for modern languages, the hopeless disproportion of masters to scholars, and other weak points in scholastic regulations. Mr. M. J. Higgins is popularly accredited with the authorship of this article, which is earnestly and ingeniously written. The continuation of "Hogarth" is, as usual, scholarly, bright, and interesting. Constant progress is now made with the biography, while the by-the-way moralisings are apt and pertinent. There are three sets of verses in the number—"The Carver's Lesson," some stanzas written by Washington Irving in "The Deepdene Album," and some verses by the late Miss Emily Brontë, but none of them rise above album level. In "The Roundabout Papers" the editor, after playfully discussing a proposed order for literary merit, suggests an order of Britannia for merchant seamen, and illustrates his notion with some forcible examples of the pluck and self-denial of our mercantile marine.

Macmillan's, too, progresses well, although the author of "Tom Brown at Oxford" breaks into new ground, and takes us away from the University to a rural village, the life in which, though cleverly sketched, is not new to us, and has been equally well done. "Three Vices of Ancient Literature" is a clever diatribe by the editor against the slipshod style of the present day. There is a most laudatory notice of Mr. Holman Hunt's new picture, "Christ in the Temple," a subject which has also inspired Miss Muloch, and caused her to produce an earnest, telling poem, in blank verse. M. Michelet's "L'Amour" receives sharp castigation at the hands of Mr. Ludlow (how often has that unfortunate book been either mildly chaffed or severely treated by English critics); and Mr. Cupples, the writer, I believe, of "The Green Hand," contributes a story of a Highland tour. Some verses by Mr. F. H. Doyle, on the Fusilier's Dog, which was lately run over after having gone through the Crimean campaign, are very touching, interesting, and musical; to none of which qualities can a song in praise of the "Cambridge University Boat of 1860" lay claim. The general public can scarcely be expected to care much for a set of rhymes celebrating the thews and sinews of eight-oarsmen, garnished with University slang, and as rough as they are esoteric.

In the new number of the *Universal Review* Dr. Doran gossips pleasantly and learnedly on "Names and Nicknames;" Mr. J. C. Jefferson brings to a conclusion his clever story of "Sir Everard's Daughter;" and the "Amateur Financiers" of the Liverpool Reform Association receive a terrible slaughtering. Mr. Sutherland Edwards contributes a capital paper on certain Russian fabulists, and there are biographical and critical notices of Nathaniel Hawthorne and Mr. Disraeli.

Fraser has not come to hand this month.

The *Englishwoman's Journal* becomes more and more strong-minded. The opening paper this month is a lecture on "Medicine as a Profession for Women," by Mrs. Elizabeth and Emily Blackwell.

The *Eclectic* exhibits great improvement. There is a very smart article in review of Mr. Walter White and "Murray's English Handbook," by Mr. G. W. Thornbury; and a pleasant paper, "The Month of May," by Alexander Smith.

The *English Woman's Domestic Magazine* has commenced a new career; and the first number of the new series appears to combine every element of success in a publication of this character. Besides the customary variety of literary contributions (the most important of which are a serial tale entitled "The Family Secret" and an admirable "Domestic History of England"), the magazine offers all the attractions of *Le Follet*, with gorgeous-coloured patterns for labourers in Berlin wool, and all sorts of designs for all sorts of "fancy work." Mr. Augustus Mayhew is to give "Mrs. Letts's Diary" to the world in the next number.

THE NAVAL RESERVE.

In a quiet corner of the West India Docks lies the *Brilliant*, 26, a frigate of the old school. There is no place for such a vessel in the Navy nowadays, so she, with others of her class, have been temporarily fitted with heavy guns, and turned into training-ships for our naval volunteers. For those who wish to judge for themselves on the subject of the Naval Reserve, we would recommend a visit to some of the training-ships which are now stationed in most of our seaports. Those who expect to see the neat discipline and uniformity of dress which prevail on board a man-of-war will be disappointed. Gold lace and quarterdeck routine is wisely kept as much in the background as possible. On this point the injunctions to the officers in command are strict—"to bear in mind the difference between the rules and practices of the Royal Navy and those of the merchant service, and to endeavour, while enforcing order and regularity, to do so in such a way as may best conciliate the feelings of the merchant seamen." Thus the men, being all merchant seamen, come in what dress they like, and as long as they go through their twenty-eight days' drill in the course of the year—doing duty at whatever periods are most convenient to themselves—they earn their £10, and can go about their business till the twelvemonth has expired, when they take twenty-eight days more in the same manner. Those on board the *Brilliant* are all in the West India trade, and, as a matter of course, prefer to take their twenty-eight days' drill at once. Those in the coasting and home trades take four drills of seven days each, whenever they choose, in the intervals between their regular voyages. On board the *Brilliant*, as in all the other vessels, the men come on board at half-past nine in the morning, when they are mustered and told off to their guns in time to commence at ten o'clock. From this till twelve they work at the guns, when they are allowed two hours for dinner, falling in again at two and drilling till half-past four, when they are dismissed and go home, having, of course, all the rest of the day to themselves. These hours are easy enough, yet, short as they are, from the men liking the exercise (especially the broad sword), they contrive to make astonishing proficiency when the time of their drill is taken into consideration. On board the *Brilliant*, from the time the word is given to fall in till they fire three rounds from each gun at 400, 600, and 800 yards' elevation, is only four minutes—a most creditable result.

The advantages which are held out to induce the able seamen to join this reserve are apparently so great that one requires to investigate carefully the causes which have led the mass of the able seamen, up almost to the present time, to regard the whole plan with a feeling which, if not quite dislike, was at least one of considerable suspicion. Each man during drill receives a guinea a week pay, in addition to the £6 yearly, paid every quarter, half year, or year, as he may please. During actual service in the Navy (if they are ever called upon) they receive the same pay as continuous service men, or about 9s. a month more than other able seamen. They are entitled to receive the same bedding, clothing, and mess-traps on joining as those that ship for continuous service; and, after enrolment in the volunteers for fifteen years, whether called out or not, they can claim their discharge and their pension forthwith. With such inducements it was not unnatural that the men would flock to be enrolled in hundreds. Yet, though some three months have elapsed since the scheme was promulgated, very little more than 1000 able seamen have been entered. These, however, it must be admitted, are all picked men; and, as the weekly number of enrolments now shows a steady increase, there seems very little doubt but that, before the year expires, at least between 3000 and 4000 will be on the lists. The proportion of petty officers and able seamen to ordinary seamen and boys employed in the Navy is about one-third, and scarcely any of the best-manned vessels now in the Channel fleet muster more than 250 able seamen among their blue-jackets.

According to this computation, then, already the reserve can furnish crews for four sail of the line, and there is no reason why this number should not be at least quadrupled under proper management, as we have said, even before the year is out. The first fear of the seamen, that immediately after entering the reserve they would be sent out to China and other foreign stations is now fast wearing out, and, except at one or two little ports in the north, has almost disappeared. One cause of dissatisfaction, however, still remains, and that is that the seamen do not receive their quarter's bounty on entering the reserve, but only when they have completed the three months, and this rule is adhered to, although in the great majority of instances no drill is demanded at all during this first quarter. No class of the community is more accessible to the inducement of ready-money payment than sailors, and none, as a general rule, are so little influenced by prospective advantages. Therefore, when to the suspicion of being sent abroad is added the drawback of having to wait three months before they get their bounty, only a very superior and provident class of seamen (always a minority) will join the reserve at all. Another cause which acts as a great check to the men joining is, to use the mildest term, the spirit of dissatisfaction which prevails among the seamen of the Royal Navy on the question of leave ashore. Leave, in fact, is a mere term now, which means everything or nothing, according to the humour of the Captain or Port Admiral in whose jurisdiction the ship may chance to anchor. There is a rule for every possible emergency in the service but one, and that is "leave" ashore. A squadron comes into harbour, and one Captain gives a whole watch forty-eight hours' leave, while the Captain of the next ship only gives twelve or fifteen per cent of his watch twenty-four hours' leave. Some then grumble; some do worse, and are heavily punished, while the Captains or Admirals who have given rise to the whole fracas point triumphantly to the "spirit of insubordination" as an excuse for further severities.

One most important feature in favour of the Naval Reserve is that some of the seamen's unions in the north have through their delegates now warmly taken up its cause, and are forward in advocating its claims upon the support of the men. Such aid on the part of the most provident and careful body of seamen in the country, is of course most important, and will soon yield good results. Masters of vessels also give a decided preference to reserve men, as naturally the most steady and best trained, and this also is slowly though surely producing its effect. If the Government were only bold enough and liberal enough to take one step more, and pay the able seamen in the navy at the same rate which they now receive in the merchant service, we should hear of no more difficulties as to want of seamen. This increase would add only £140,000 a year to the estimates—a small sum for so great a good.

THE ARMY.—The return of British regimental establishments for 1860-61 of all ranks gives a total of 114,115 men. The number of effective ranks on the 1st of April, 1860, was 133,962. The return of Indian establishments for 1860-61 is 83,555 men, and the number of effective ranks on the 1st of April, 1860, according to returns received in England during the present month was 94,829. The total number of embodied militia of all ranks on the 1st of April, 1860, was 19,333 men.

Literature.

Poems before Congress. By ELIZABETH BARRETT BROWNING. Chapman and Hall.

It is not without hesitation that we notice this book at all. Criticism is scarcely open to it; at all events, neither author nor public would care for that in detail; so that it only remains to say that the "Poems before Congress" are very unpleasant reading. We cannot, for our own part, question the right of the authoress to say and to sing whatever she pleases; what is more, we cannot feel any resentment, say or sing what she may, having, as we have, a robust, honest, unreserved faith in freedom of thought and speech. We are, of course, at liberty to say we dislike this, that, or the other; but what is gained by it? The poetess replies, and may so reply with perfect nobleness and singleness of heart, "I said the thing which it was in me to say, and have no further care about the matter. I am sorry for your pain, but I had my task to do, and could not help the pain." And this is a fair answer, and closes the case, as we apprehend it.

But if we were to attempt the criticism of "Poems before Congress" our labour would serve to illustrate the absurdity of the conventional law of literary etiquette against what is called "personality"—a law, by the way, which, like the parallel law understood at public meetings, is never fairly applied in both directions, for you may, in print or otherwise, be as "personal" as you please in praise though not in blame. These "poems" are, in fact, hysterical sobs and interjections which could never have come from a man or woman in sound bodily health. They contain oversights and inconsequences which are nothing short of childish. We are told in one place (for instance) that "all" wanted to crush the new Italian movement; and, in the very same verse, that "some" said it should be allowed to run itself out. We are not going to be guilty of the ridiculous affectation (of which an example or two has been set) of saying that, if it were not for the respectability of the publishers, we should think a trick had been played in the lady's name; but we will say what we hope will hit the exact truth—that certain very bad qualities of Mrs. Browning's style, hysterical in their character, have come to a "head" in these poems, and that we shall now expect to see her get the better of them. "Aurora Leigh" had precisely the same faults, though in less degree; the ugliest (though not, perhaps, the most dangerous—that quality distinguishing a trick of verbal sophistry which belongs to both the Brownings) being a certain defiant nastiness, which is not inconsistent always with purity and loftiness of soul, but which must bring its own undeniable justification with it if it is to be accepted. If it occurs too often (as it does, in this case, in the writings of both husband and wife)—if it raises a question in the reader's mind—it is a mistake. With our dearly beloved and honoured poetess it is a mere hysterical affectation:—

Maim the soul's complete,
To fit the hole of a toad,
And rich the dogman's meat,
To feed the off-spring of God.

What does an intelligent physician think of that for a "symptom" in an English lady's writing? Our prescription would be simple: a course of hydropathic treatment in some lovely English county, followed by a course of back-slum philanthropy in London. But we would rather draw to a close.

We have, of course, no quarrel with Mrs. Browning for her Napoleonic sympathies. Let her believe in whom she will; it is all fair, and nothing to us or to anybody. Nor should we fret if she were to "curse" England as heartily as she has done America: it amuses her, and doesn't hurt us; and it may be, as she says, that

A curse from the depths of womanhood
Is very bitter, and salt, and good;

though tastes differ about the "good," while agreeing wonderfully about the pepper—we beg pardon, "salt." No—we stand up for entire liberty of prophesying, and will even go a step farther, and say that Mrs. Browning, Mr. Browning, Mr. Carlyle, and the entire army of malcontents of all classes must not be allowed to bear the whole blame of their extravagances. Let some of it—much of it—rest upon the shoulders of the blessed "masses" of imbeciles, fools, hypocrites, and thieves, that from the armchairs of modern respectability breathe out the poisonous cants which turn genius into gall, and, with the twopenny-halfpenny snobishness of their feeble lives, "aggravate" strong, bright souls into blundering force-woohip, and "curses," that read like nightmares of de-paration, put into metrical slang.

The Year-book of Facts in Science and Art. By JOHN TIMBS, F.S.A. W. Kent and Co. 1860.

This year-book of Mr. Timbs's is one of the pleasantest of gossiping manuals, a real "railway" volume, sure to start conversation, if that is desired; and equally sure to amuse the shy, silent reader, with his rug round his toes, in the corner. It is also a book which should be "ordered to lie on the table" of every house against moments when the briskest wits flag in talk and those awful silences impend horribly over the heads of the company.

Do our readers ever wonder, in turning over such a miscellaneous record as this, whether our posterity will ever look back upon our scientific "facts" as we look back upon theirs? Will a future age ever think of Faraday as we think of Roger Bacon? Will our terminology and our "explanations" ever seem as absurd as theirs now do? We take up a popular "Why and Because" of two hundred years ago and read such questions and answers as these:—"Q. Why doth the Crowing of a Cock Affrighte so Mightie and Valiant a Beast as the Lion of the Forest?—A. Because the sound of the Crowing of that lusty Bird bath in it a Qualitie which is exceeding hateful to the Lion, and so causeth that Beast sudden Qualmes and Aches, which make him to flee, forasmuch as hee cannot Endure them." Now, will our very great grandchildren ever quote Pinnock with the zest with which we put down the above? Heaven knows, and Heaven will; but we do all know that no age of the world is free from the liability to have adulterated "facts" put before it—facts with which inference is blended by careless observers or recorders. Meantime, we are much indebted to intelligent clerks of "progress," like Mr. Timbs, who make readable rough minutes of new things as they rise.

The Popes' Rights and Wrongs. An Historical Sketch. Trübner and Co.

Messrs. Trübner and Co. are very intelligent and respectable publishers, and reading people in general owe them much. Therefore we are sorry to see their names on the titlepage of this unclean pamphlet, which is obviously written by a foreigner. It is sheer impudence to call the thing "The Popes' Rights and Wrongs," or to pretend that a collection of ugly "facts" (more or less reliable) about the Papacy, with a large sprinkling of dirty anecdotes, can help forward any question of the day. We are not prudish; and we are of opinion that there is nothing which may not be said by any one who knows how to say it. But the compiler of this brochure must not ride off without rebuke upon the "apology" in his preface, that he "has not always been able to translate his quotations from old authors into the language of the present day."

A First German Course. By FALCK LEBAHN. C. H. Clarke. Within the compass of one hundred and forty pages, clearly arranged, and neatly printed on good paper, with plenty of margin for notes by the student, we have here the most compendious introduction to German yet printed. It gives the accidence, exercises, anecdotes (on which are founded dialogues), and a vocabulary, all for a sum which is trivial. The books out of which a student learns a language are of exceedingly small consequence if he have the real student stuff in him. It stands on record that Leibnitz learnt Latin without either grammar or dictionary, and such feats are possible to one or two in every million. But to average persons the instruction-book matters a good deal, and to them Mr. Lebahn is a benefactor.

SIR JOHN HERSCHEL'S RESIDENCE AT THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

THE annexed Engraving shows the house occupied by Sir John Herschel during his residence, for astronomical purposes, at the Cape of Good Hope. It will be recollected by many of our readers that the occasion of Sir John Herschel's residence at the Cape was taken advantage of by a clever American to hoax the civilised world with a fabulous account of marvellous lunar discoveries purporting to have been made by the famous astronomer in South Africa. So thoroughly was the popular mind, even among the best educated and most reading classes, imbued with fanciful anticipation of vast lunar discoveries, and of speedy telescopic improvements by which they were to be assuredly achieved, that at the time Mr. Locke's "Moon Story" was written scarcely anything could have been devised and announced upon the subject too extravagant for general credulity to receive.

The title of the remarkable satire was the following:—"Great Astronomical Discoveries lately made by Sir John Herschel, LL.D., F.R.S., &c., at the Cape of Good Hope," and it was announced as being "first published in the *New York Sun*, from the supplement to the *Edinburgh Journal of Science*." The success the canard met with was most astounding. The journal in which the series of papers appeared in New York sold edition after edition, and English and French journals quoted largely from the original sheet. Communication at that period was less frequent than it is now between England and the Cape of Good Hope,



HERSCHEL'S RESIDENCE AT THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

and there was no means for some time of Sir John being made acquainted with this apparently plausible history of his discoveries said to have been drawn up by himself.

From England and France these glorious and astounding discoveries

sped their welcome way through Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Spain, and Portugal, and were translated into their several languages; in fact, in many parts of the Continent they remain uncontradicted to the present day and are believed by vast numbers of the population. In Naples numerous lithographic prints were published, in which the lunar landscapes and inhabitants purported to have been described by Sir John Herschel were depicted in exaggerative and comic association.

But no one could have been more astonished at these marvellous discoveries than was Sir John himself when he had the history of them presented to him personally, both in the *New York papers*, and in a pamphlet form, by an American gentleman who visited the Cape by the first ship that sailed after the publication of the story. It appears that the illustrious astronomer was in the habit of seeking relaxation from his severe labours and studies at his observatory in almost daily visits to Cape Town, where, in the back parlour of a snug hotel, he obtained the earliest news from Europe and America. It was here that the gentleman in question was introduced to Sir John; and, being in the secret of the hoax and something of a wag, he begged leave to present him with an American report of his "great astronomical discoveries." Sir John replied, with an air of surprise, that he should feel much obliged for any information from the United States; but of anything relating to himself or his astronomical pursuits he could not readily conceive, inasmuch as he himself had made no report upon the subject. He was assured,



NEW TOWN HALL AND ASSEMBLY ROOMS FOR BISHOP AUCKLAND.—[ARCHITECT, MR. J. P. JONES.]

however, that they must, nevertheless, have "got wind," for here was the "full and particular account" in print. Having perused some few pages Sir John exclaimed, in an excited manner, "This is a most extraordinary affair! Pray, what does it mean? Is this really a reprint of an Edinburgh publication, or an elaborate hoax by some person in New York?" He afterwards laughed immensely, and good-naturedly remarked that he "feared the actual result of his telescopic observations at the Cape would be very humble in popular estimation, at least in comparison with those ascribed to him in the American account, as he was unfortunately unprovided with any instrument as it admitted to be necessary to achieve them."

BISHOP AUCKLAND TOWNHALL.

In the accompanying Engraving we give a View of the new town-hall, assembly-rooms, and covered market, lately erected at Bishop Auckland.

The building comprises on the ground-floor a large room, assigned for a mechanics' institute, an ante-room, news-room, offices for town-hall company and board of health. On the west are shops, under the arcade, with living rooms over. The market is in the rear, approached through a long passage open on four sides. It is covered with an iron and glass roof, and has galleries for poultry and dairy produce. On the first floor is the assembly-room, the dimensions of which are eighty by forty feet; it is fitted with organ and orchestra, and is to be highly decorated in colours. There are also other rooms for the business of the town. Large staircases are provided throughout, especially to the assembly-rooms.

The architect is Mr. J. P. Jones, of London, whose design was selected in unlimited competition.

THE DRINKING-FOUNTAINS AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM AND AT CAMDEN-TOWN.

DRINKING-FOUNTAINS are of much more interest at present than they have been for some months; and as the weather grows warmer we shall probably hear them less "chaffed" by the passing devotee of beer.

With the fountains erected at the British Museum we have heard scores of habitual frequenters express great satisfaction. They are placed one on each side the entrance to the Museum, under the portico, and are



DRINKING FOUNTAIN AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

executed in white marble, after a design by Mr. Sidney Smirke. They were erected at the expense of the trustees of the Museum.

Another drinking-fountain, of which we give an illustration, has been built close to the railway station in the Broadway, Camden-town, and forms a very ornamental feature in the neighbourhood. The structure is of stone, with granite columns, and surmounted by a pyramidal roof, terminating in a lamp. In the plinth, on one side, is a panel containing a suitable inscription, and in another a dog-trough—a humane and wise provision. It stands on two steps, and is surrounded by a circular refuge platform, with granite piers to the curb. This fountain is the work of M. W. Farmer, of Westminster.

THE "CONNAUGHT."

ON Saturday week this magnificent vessel was launched from Messrs. Palmer's yard at Jarrow, in presence of a vast assemblage of persons. The *Connaught* is one of four great steam-ships of similar dimensions, intended to commence running this summer, with increased speed, between Galway and New York, via St. John's, Newfoundland. The improved facilities of communication by means of the new ships placed on the Holyhead service will reduce the time between London and Dublin to eleven hours, while the transit from Dublin to Galway will not, according to future arrangements, occupy more than four hours, so that a fair start from Galway within sixteen hours will be obtained by a passenger leaving London for America. Another important fact is that by means of these fast paddle-steamers telegraphic news will be transmitted between all parts of America and Europe within six days or less. The *Connaught* will probably be the fastest vessel afloat, not excepting even the *Great Eastern*. She is built for speed as well as passenger accommodation. She is of nearly 3000 tons register, and, consequently, of burden exceeding almost any ship that has been built for commercial purposes. Her horse-power is 800 nominal, and upon the oscillating principle. The length of this fine steamer, whose sister ship, the *Leinster*, is soon to follow her from the same yard, is 378 ft., being 360 ft. between perpendiculars. Her beam is 40 ft., and over all 71 ft. 6 in. Her depth of hold is 30 ft. The *Connaught* will carry about 800 passengers, including 200 first-class, who will be luxuriously

accommodated. She is constructed with a spar-deck, straight stem, and elliptic stern, and is on the wave-line principle attributed to Assheton Smith, the great modern Nimrod of the hunting-field. She carries her floor well aft, which, it is said, will give great buoyancy and steadiness at a high rate of speed. But, what is of more consequence, she is built in water-tight compartments of extraordinary strength; and we are informed that, were forty feet of her bow carried away by collision or otherwise, she would still float on an even keel without risk. For transatlantic voyages paddle-steamers are much safer than screw, as they can back out of an iceberg and stand a much better chance on a lee-shore.

By an improved arrangement great longitudinal strength has been given by Messrs. Palmer to these new vessels, and the transverse frames are doubled. The vessel is throughout double, and in some places treble, riveted.

The *Connaught* has two iron masts, each in one piece, and is light-rigged (so as to reduce resistance to a minimum when under steam), with fore and aft and gaff topsails. Yards and square-sails can, however, be set, if required. The rigging is of galvanised iron wire, and the life-boats of corrugated wrought iron, fitted with Gladstone's lowering apparatus. There is a telegraph from the bridge to the man at the wheel, and an indicator over the rudder to let the officer on the bridge see that his commands are obeyed. The deck fittings are of teak, and all the appliances are of the most improved description, the capstans being Brown and Harfield's patent. The saloon is magnificent with panelings of walnut root and bird's-eye maple, with beautifully-executed views of Irish scenery alternately let in; and the ladies' cabin is most exquisitely fitted up. The cooking ranges are capable of cooking with convenience for eight hundred persons. Bar, baths, and smoking-rooms are all equally well arranged and commodious. The accommodation for the passengers forward are equal to first-class in many ships; but the first-class and second-class passengers are completely separated by an excellent arrangement on board of these new vessels. We have stated the power of the engines. The main cylinders, 48 tons, are 80 inches in diameter, and are three in number, placed under the paddle-shaft thwart-ship, and working direct to the cranks and shafts over them. The position of the cranks being at three equal divisions of a circle a perfect balance is given to the machinery, and the engines, which are unincumbered by air, feed, and bilge pumps, can be driven at good speed in the heaviest weather. There are separate cylinders for the air-pumps, which give great advantages to the engineer in stopping and starting the ship, and keeping the engines in bad weather at a minimum speed; and, in case of derangement or leakage, the full power of this engine is itself capable of propelling a large-sized vessel. The eight boilers of the *Connaught* are constructed on the most approved plan, and with a total heating surface of 20,000 square feet: they are heated through forty furnaces. The new principle of super-heating, or drying the steam, has been adopted through Beardmore and Galloway's patent. The paddle-wheels are 34 feet in diameter, and made with feathering-floats, which are 12 feet long by 4 feet 8 inches. The engines are by J. B. Palmer and Co.

WHERE'S THE CHANNEL FLEET?

WHAT has become of the Channel Fleet? The question is an ignorant and impertinent one we dare say, but it is on behalf of a proverbially ignorant and impertinent, though taxpaying and patriotic, British public that we ask it. We not only do not believe that the question could be satisfactorily answered in the House of Commons by the Secretary of the Admiralty himself, but we seriously doubt if any one of the Port Admirals, or even any seaman serving in any one of the ships which were lately supposed to constitute the Channel Fleet, could enlighten us on the subject. Ask those peripatetic philosophers in pilot jackets who hail from Point, or haunt the western slopes of Mount Wise, where the Channel Fleet is to be found. They will point to a stray ship or two at Spithead or in the Sound, "quite promiscuous-like," and they may have heard it said that there are half-a-dozen ships in Portland Harbour; but as one swallow does not make a summer, so neither can a scattered ship or two make a Channel Fleet, if a Channel Fleet really means something more than a number of ships casually and

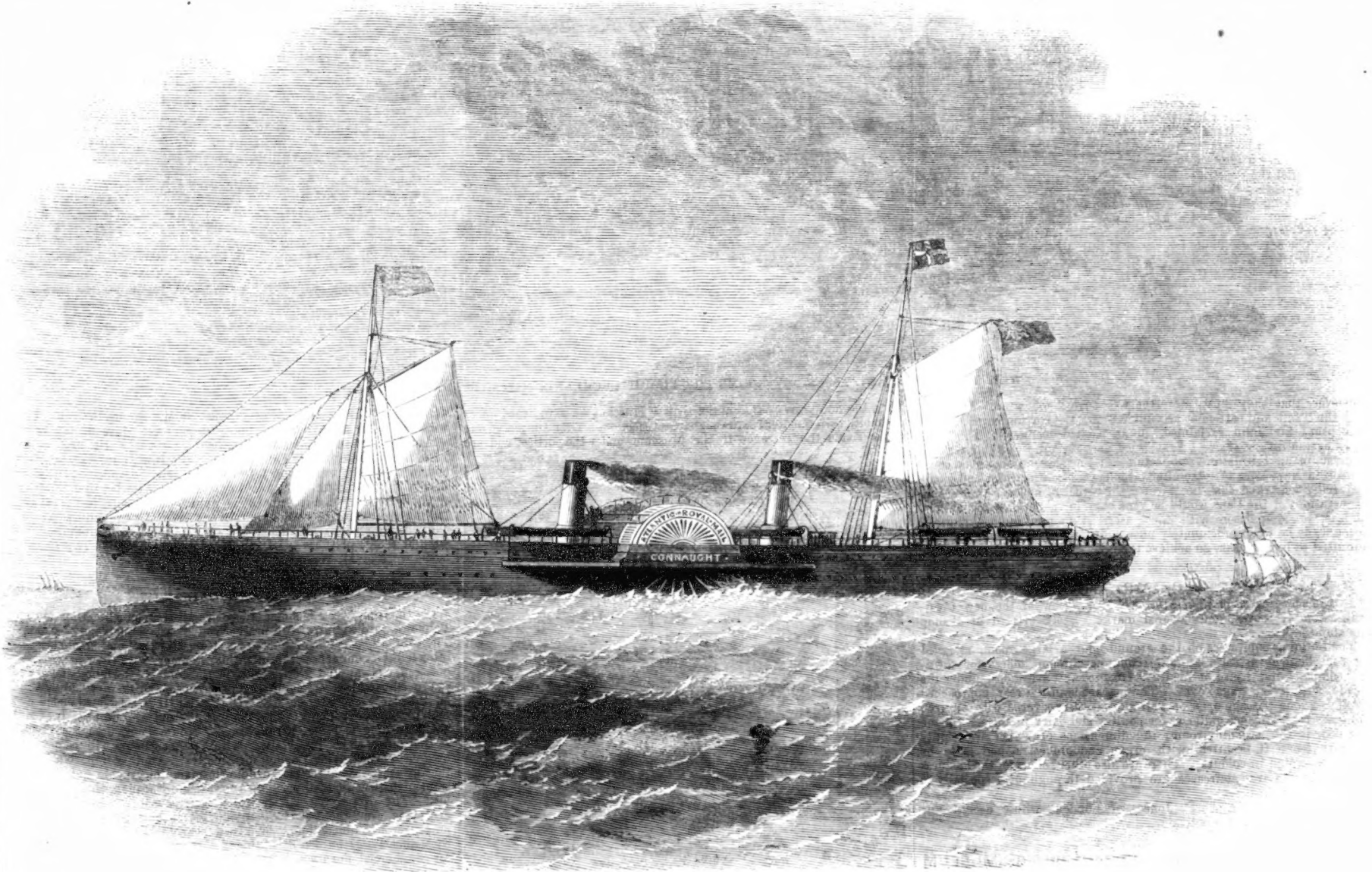


DRINKING FOUNTAIN AT CAMDEN-TOWN.

incidentally discoverable in or about the Channel ports. There was certainly something resembling a Channel Fleet last autumn, for did we not hear that six ships had actually sailed close past the Eddystone in a treble-reefed topsail breeze, and with a choice of anchorages under their lee had stood off at sunset and faced the gale, to the consternation of the keepers of that famous lighthouse, and to the exceeding great contentment of Britons terrestrial, who as soon as they heard of this

marvellous exploit vowed that "Britannia rules the waves" might henceforth be transferred from convivial poetry to Parliamentary prose? It was not, however, the fact of a British squadron of line-of-battle ships and first-class frigates facing a gale that made the autumn cruise of the Channel Fleet from Queenstown to Portland memorable in our naval annals, but the fact that it returned to Portland Harbour without carrying away a rope-yarn. What a combination, we were invited to remark, of dash and discretion, of contempt of weather and regard for the Estimates. What a proud and grateful homage to the reigning principle at that most economical of all our national establishments—the Admiralty! Under these brilliant auspices the Channel fleet made all snug for the winter. With the new year, and the approach of spring, and the frequent equinoctial storms of talking Admirals in the House of Commons, it was felt in those strange amphibious councils of Whitehall that the Channel Fleet must make its existence once more publicly and popularly felt by sailing out of Portland Harbour in two lines. Not even the seventy thousand Rifle Volunteers have reassured the homely British landsman's mind, and made it glow with manly confidence, as did the solemn departure from Portland Harbour of the Channel fleet "in two lines" for Lisbon. The sequel is known. The long frigates lost as little time as possible in running into each other, or into line-of-battle ships, in their very first quadrille; a gale ensued, and the fleet was not "dispersed," as idle tongues asserted in the House, and idle pens reported in the newspapers: it only separated, some ships getting as far as Lisbon without putting back, others as far as Torbay, and others as far as Plymouth; but all that survived of the pack, stragglers and "tailers," sooner or later running into the Tagus.

The next account we had of the Channel Fleet was that most of the ships were on their way to England again; leaving two or three at Lisbon, and two or three that had never got there. "The rest is silence." Or, rather, it is like Richard II.'s account of the deaths of Kings. Some had been into dock, strained and leaky; others with disabled engines and boilers, others with sprung spars—all wanting repair. Nohow and nowhere is the succinctest report of the where and the what of the Channel Fleet since the cruise to Lisbon. Imagine every man at Shorncliffe, Aldershot, and Colchester in hospital, and that is the condition of our Channel Fleet. While maritime economists in Parliament have been haggling over the wastefulness of unseasoned timber, the cost of "conversion," and the relative price of anchors, the Channel Fleet, of which we are all so proud, has been undergoing every sort of distressing operation known to dockyard surgery and to the pharmacopoeia of engineering, at the cost of Heaven only knows (for the Secretary of the Admiralty does not) how many thousands of pounds; the crews have been falling into mutinous disorder and discontent, for want, it seems, of something else to do. The Captain of the Fleet, an admirably zealous and effective officer, as everybody knows, comes up to town every now and then to complain to the Secretary of the Admiralty of the mischievous effects of loose naval talk in the House; and many of our readers may from day to day have met Jack with some well-known ship's name on his cap, cruising in the metropolis, and certainly they had not the heart to grudge the honest fellow a run ashore. Nevertheless, with every disposition to make both the Captain of the Fleet and Jack in general as easy in mind and as comfortable in circumstances as possible, we are not permitted in our public and responsible capacity to forget that naval questions are, above all others, national questions, in their relation to national expenditure and national strength. Do we get our money's worth in the dockyards? is the burden of incessant discussions in Parliament, and a case for Committees without end. But, do we get our money's worth in that Channel Fleet which we are taught to believe, and do most sincerely believe, is our indispensable safeguard—is another and not less serious question; and we wish it were not equally incapable of receiving a satisfactory answer. On this point the Admiralty deserves no quarter, for it knows—as well as that Great Britain is an island—that the British people holds as an article of national faith the paramount duty and necessity of maintaining an active and efficient Channel Fleet, not only for the defence of these shores and in readiness for all emergencies, but as a normal school of naval discipline, of seamanship, gunnery, and tactics. The British people gives its thirteen millions ungrudgingly, but it has a hobby, and that hobby is a Channel Fleet that it can count at any moment, and point to, and call by name. We



THE OCEAN MAIL COMPANY'S STEAM-SHIP "CONNAUGHT."

should like to hear even Mr. Bright assert that a Channel Fleet is a superfluity. But if the Channel Fleet, for which we pay so dear and yet so gladly, is to consist of ships repairing in docks, of crews running to seed like unused biscuit, of chiefs coming up to town to remonstrate, Mr. Bright may be tempted, in some future fight for the Radical championship, to speak even of the Channel Fleet as an imposture—*Daily News*.

THE OPERAS.

"Fra Diavolo" was given at the Royal Italian Opera last Tuesday, for the first time this season, with Mdme. Miolan-Carvalho in the part of Zerlina, with Gardoni as the Marquis, Ronconi as Lord Roeburgh (Lord Alcah in the English version), Neri-Baraldi as the military lover, and Mdle. Corbani as Lady Roeburgh. Mdme. Miolan-Carvalho on this occasion appeared as Zerlina for the first time, and sang the music with so much brilliancy, and in all respects in such admirable style, as to make many persons wonder why she had never had an opportunity of singing it in her native land. "Fra Diavolo," however, is an opera which is performed far less seldom in France than in England, where it may be ranked in popularity with the "Sonnambula," "Norma," "Lucia," and some two or three other works, to which the English public—owing in part to its very familiarity with their beauties—has been marvellously constant. With all her qualities as a vocalist of "agility," Mdme. Carvalho has at the same time what few singers of that class possess—viz., a most sympathetic voice. Most artists of the Sontag and Persiani school, however dazzling their performance may be, are cold, and generally wanting in expression, in consequence, no doubt, of their energies being absorbed in their severe though successful contests with executive difficulties. But Mdme. Carvalho sings at all times with feeling, and with true dramatic expression. Her voice is naturally somewhat thin, but as an artist she is perfection. Gardoni, as the Marquis, is elegant but feeble—a good deal like what a young Italian Marquis may be, but not in the least like a brigand. Ronconi as Lord Roeburgh, is wonderfully humorous and "makes up" for the travelling English nobleman in the most admirable style. The two brigands are played by Zelger and Tagliafico; and it is difficult to say which is the most amusing—the former as the fat, robust robber, or the latter as the lean, hungry, apparently half-starved thief. The orchestra was all that could be desired; and the overture, especially, was magnificently played. On Thursday Mdme. Csillag was to have made her first appearance as Azucena in the "Trovatore," the other parts being played by Mario, Graziani, and Mdme. Gristi.

It must not be imagined because Mdme. Nantier-Didiée is replaced by Mdle. Sylvia in the part of the goatherd in "Dinorah," and by Mdme. Csillag in that of the gipsy in the "Trovatore," that we have lost, for the present season, the charming contralto who has now for some years been one of the chief attractions of the Royal Italian Opera. Mdme. Didiée has been indisposed, and, strangely enough, when the enterprising director sent to St. Petersburg to invite Mdme. Lablache de Méric to undertake Mdme. Didiée's characters, the same indisposition which had prevented the latter from singing made it impossible for the former to appear. We are happy to add that the mothers and children are doing well.

Nothing new has been brought out at Her Majesty's Theatre except an opera by Signor Campana, which was played three times, with Mdle. Piccolomini in the principal part, and which, now that that vocalist has left the stage, will certainly never be heard of again.

DESTRUCTION OF THE SAILORS' HOME, LIVERPOOL.

THE SAILORS' Home at Liverpool—a fine building—was completely destroyed by a fire which broke out on Sunday morning, and in the course of a few hours left little more standing than the outer walls. In all there were in the institution, when the fire broke out, upwards of 120 inmates, most of whom had retired to the dormitories, and were in imminent danger. They appeared at the windows of the upper stories, and, so far as can be ascertained, were all rescued; but, while this is hoped to be true, it is feared that one or two may be buried amid the ruins. By means of about twelve engines, and between twenty and thirty hose, an immense volume of water was poured upon the burning pile, but notwithstanding this, the flames extended with great rapidity, until at length the whole of the immense building was in flames. Constable Hardacre, the man who was first upon the scene, had ascended a tall ladder for the purpose of passing a hose into the building, when the ladder upon which he rested broke, and he fell with great violence to the ground. He was at once conveyed to the Southern Hospital, where he died soon after his arrival. The doorkeeper, named Clarke, was assisting Mr. Hanmer, the secretary, to rescue the bank books and papers, when he was crushed to death by the falling in of the ceiling above. The fire originated in one of the bedrooms on the fifth flat, and at the instant the superintendent of the building gave it as his opinion that it was caused by the ashes from a pipe igniting the bedclothes, though smoking upstairs was strictly prohibited.

A circumstance adding much to the feeling of regret at the destruction of this building is that it was only insured to about a third of its value. The cost of its erection was £30,000, and the amount for which it is insured is £10,000. The interior fittings were insured for £3000. The foundation-stone of the SAILORS' Home was laid in July, 1846, by Prince Albert, who contributed a handsome sum towards its erection. It is proposed to compensate the sailors for the loss they have sustained in clothing, &c., and, from the high estimation in which the institution is held, there is little doubt but that it will soon be rebuilt.

PROPOSED ORDER OF BRITANNIA.—The Editor of the *Cornhill Magazine* asks:—"Why is there not an order of Britannia for British seamen? In the merchant and the Royal Navy alike occur almost daily instances and occasions for the display of science, skill, bravery, fortitude in trying circumstances, and resource in danger. In the first number of our magazine a friend contributed a most touching story of the McClinton expedition, in the dangers and dreadful glories of which he shared; and the writer was a merchant captain. How many more are there (and, for the honour of England may there be many like him!)—gallant, accomplished, high-spirited, enterprising masters of their noble profession? Can our fountain of honour not be brought to such men? It plays upon captains and colonels in seemly profusion. It pours forth not illiberal rewards upon doctors and judges. It sprinkles mayors and aldermen. It bestows a painter now and again. It has spirited a baronetcy upon two, and bestowed a coronet upon one noble man of letters. Diplomats take their bath in it as of right; and it dings out a profusion of glittering stars upon the nobility of the three kingdoms. Cannot Britannia find a ribbon for her sailors? The navy, Royal or mercantile, is a service. The command of a ship, or the conduct of her, implies danger, honour, science, skill, subordination, good faith. It may be a victory, such as that of the *Sarah Sands*; it may be a discovery, such as that of the *For*; it may be heroic disaster, such as that of the *Birkenhead*; and in such events merchant seamen, as well as Royal seamen, take their share. Why is there not, then, an Order of Britannia? One day a young officer of the *Euryalus* may win it; and, having just read the memoirs of Lord Dundonald, I know who ought to have the first Grand Cross."

A MODERN JACK SHEPHERD.—Walter Scott Douglas, a notorious house-breaker, has made a second escape from Newcastle gaol. On Sunday morning, while the officers were at chapel, he forced back the bolt of the door of his prison and got over a wall fifteen feet high by means of a table which he placed upon the roof of an out-house. But by far the most insurmountable obstacle here presented itself—viz., the outer wall of the prison, about thirty feet high. To scale this would seem practically impossible; but Douglas, finding a pole of sufficient length, which had been used by the masons, reared it against the wall, opposite the Church Jubilee Charity School, which stands in a small, quiet lane at the back of the gaol. At this point the wall rises higher, and a cornice rises abruptly on the top, about a foot in height. This cornice or the end the prisoner would be able to reach by climbing up the pole just mentioned; but the difficulty would now be to get down into the back lane. How the means for effecting this object were attained is a matter for inquiry. As soon as he reached the bottom he ran up a lane, and, turning into an alley on the right, hurried down into Fandon Dene, where he was lost to view. Immediately on seeing him one of the little girls belonging to the school had run to the porter of the gaol and informed him of the man's escape. Information was given to the police, parties of whom were started in different directions.

ABDUCTION OF PROTESTANT CHILDREN.

AN extraordinary case of abduction has been made public, in the Court of Queen's Bench at Dublin, of which the following are the heads:—

Eight months ago a sailor named Sherwood, a Protestant, died in Ireland. He left a widow and seven children, but had made no provision for their support. Mrs. Sherwood bestirred herself to obtain some assistance for her numerous family, and it appears that she succeeded, without much trouble, in getting all the seven children taken off her hands at once. It is hard work in Ireland to get a single child into a school or asylum; but no sooner had Mrs. Sherwood applied to a certain charitable lady in Dublin than seven admissions were given her entitling the seven infants to maintenance and education in a "Protestant Orphanage" institution in the county of Galway. The offer seemed an excellent one, and the children were accordingly taken to the Midland Great Western terminus in Dublin, and there booked for the place of their destination. The affair appeared not only arranged but absolutely accomplished. The little passengers were looked up in a carriage, the guard had undertaken to look after them on the road, and the matron of the Protestant Orphanage was to meet them at Galway. Five hours' run by railway was all that intervened between them and their refuge, but the interval proved long enough for a serious slip.

In the carriage with the children were two men, named M'Robins and O'Connor, who entered into conversation with their young fellow-passengers, and soon informed themselves of their story. M'Robins, an attorney's clerk by profession, was connected with a rival "institution" for the benefit of Roman Catholics, and looked, therefore, with a natural jealousy on the reinforcement which the Galway establishment was about to receive. O'Connor had not, as far as we learn, any sympathies beyond those which his religion supplied, but these were strong enough to make him a most zealous ally. In short, M'Robins and O'Connor determined to upset Mrs. Sherwood's scheme for the establishment of her children, and intercept their arrival at the Protestant institution. Nor did they stop at mere intentions; for when the train arrived at Galway, and the matron of the Orphanage presented herself on the platform to receive her charge, they boldly showed fight for the prize, and positively succeeded in carrying off four of the infants—three boys and a girl—whom they put into a covered car and took away with them. It seems to be ascertained that, on the 22nd of March, these children were taken by M'Robins to Dublin, but from that time to this all trace of them has been lost. An application was then made to the Court of Queen's Bench for an attachment against the offenders; but up to the present time they seemed to have escaped.

It is alleged on behalf of these kidnappers that the children professed themselves Roman Catholics, and intimated that they were going to Galway against their will; though it is hard to conceive how such infants could have discriminated between the rival communions, and still harder to understand how Messrs. M'Robins and O'Connor could have held themselves entitled to make the affair their own.

Another abduction case came before the Court on Thursday week, which terminated in an attachment being issued against a Miss Aylward, the matron of a religious establishment, who had made an insufficient answer to a writ of habeas corpus to deliver up the body of a child named Mary Mathews, who had been spirited away from her nurse in the month of June last. On the next day Miss Aylward attended with her attorney and entered into recognisances to answer interrogatories in relation to the alleged abduction.

THE UNION BANK FRAUDS.—Pullinger, the fraudulent cashier, is brought up before the magistrates from time to time; but the prosecution proceeds very cautiously, and the case is little advanced. The junior cashier, Lyttleton, is charged with misappropriating £1240. Pullinger and Lyttleton both gave security to the bank to the amount of £1000, which will, of course, be recovered. It is reported, also, that about £8000 or £9000 has already been realised from assets of Pullinger in the hands of stockbrokers, and there may be a hope of further sums. Lyttleton, from all that can be ascertained, is believed to have been a mere victim of Pullinger.

THE RELIGIOUS DISSENSIONS AT ST. GEORGE'S-IN-THE-EAST.—Last Sunday evening there were the usual yellings, howlings, hissings, and other profanities which have for months past disgraced the parish church of St. George-in-the-East. When the priests and choristers came from the vestry in procession they were violently hissed. During the hymn which was sung after prayers a gentleman ascended the pulpit who had a moustache and a huge beard. He was received with a loud shout of derisive laughter, loud cries of "Nanny!" and imitations of the cry of a goat. The reverend gentlemen appeared to be astonished at this strange reception, and evidently did not understand it. He is the Rev. John David Jenkins, M.A., Canon of Cape Town Cathedral. Scarcely a sentence of the sermon was distinctly heard.

THE LIME LIGHT ON WESTMINSTER BRIDGE.—The completed portion of the new Westminster-bridge has been lighted by the new lime light for some evenings past. There are ten lights on the bridge—about one-third of the number of the old gas lights. The light is of a pure white colour and of dazzling brilliancy, making all the old gas-burners in the proximity appear as dull as though they were burning at noonday. It was to this description of light that Professor Faraday referred when he stated it was so intense that it could be distinctly seen for a distance of ninety-five miles, and the correctness of this statement was verified during the Ordnance survey of Scotland, when one of these lights, placed as a station-mark on the top of Ben Lomond, was distinctly seen at the Knock Laid, between ninety and a hundred miles distant. A single jet of the lime-light of medium size is equivalent to forty argand or eighty fish-tail gasburners, or to four hundred wax candles; and its intensity and brilliancy may be increased by augmenting the quantity of the gases supplied. As compared with the illuminating power of common gas, a single jet, consuming four cubic feet of the mixed gases of hydrogen and oxygen is said to be equal in illuminating power to that obtained from four hundred feet of ordinary gas. The mode in which the light is produced is by the combustion of lime under the great heat caused by the flame of the mixed gases. A stream of common gas, which is used instead of pure hydrogen, is conducted through one pipe, and a supply of oxygen is sent through a second one, each being attached to separate gas-holders. These pipes terminate near the lamp in one single tube, where the gases are allowed to mix in their way through a curved jet to what may be called the wick of the lamp, which is simply a lump of lime, held in close proximity to the mouth of the curved tube by a piece of metal. In lighting the lamp the first step is to direct the stream of hydrogen upon the lime; it is lighted, and gives forth a small flame of a pale yellow colour. In a few seconds after this pale colour gives place to a deep red, caused by the combustion of the metal calcium in the lime, under the great heat of the hydrogen flame. When the lime is in this state the oxygen is turned on, and instantly the bright white light is produced, which will continue as long as the "wick" remains unconsumed. The supply of lime is kept up by the action of simple clockwork machinery.

LORD ELGIN AND THE POST OFFICE.—The Duke of Argyll will for the next fortnight discharge the duties of Postmaster-General, in addition to those which already devolve upon him as Lord Privy Seal. The arrangement is an *interim* one, and is intended to meet the contingency that the Earl of Egin may receive in Egypt the intelligence that the Emperor of China has determined to acquiesce in the demands of the allied Powers, as proposed to him by Mr. Bruce and M. de Bourboulon. In that case the Earl of Elgin's presence in China would be unnecessary, and he would instantly return to England and resume his duties at the Post Office. The Duke of Argyll was formerly Postmaster-General for a considerable period. When three weeks have elapsed, and if the Earl of Elgin has proceeded on his mission to China, the post will be filled in the regular way. Lord Elgin and Baron Gros left Marseilles on Saturday.

THE VICTORIA CROSS.—Her Majesty has conferred the distinction of the Victoria Cross on Mr. George Bell Chalkin, Indian Naval Brigade, for great gallantry at Subjinee, near Poon, in having charged into the middle of a considerable number of the rebels, who were preparing to rally and open fire upon the scattered pursuers. They were surrounded on all sides; but, fighting desperately, Mr. Chalkin succeeded in killing five before he was cut down himself. He would have been cut to pieces had not some men of the 1st Bengal Police and 3rd Sikh Irregular Cavalry dashed into the crowd to his rescue and routed it, after killing several of the enemy. The Queen has also conferred the Cross upon Private James Pearson, of the 86th Regiment (now of the 55th), "for having gallantly attacked a number of armed rebels, on the occasion of the storming of Jansel, on the 3rd of April, 1853, one of whom he killed, and bayoneted two others. He was himself wounded in the attack. Also for having brought in at Calper, under a heavy fire, Private Michael Burns, who afterwards died of his wounds."

REFORM IN THE RUSSIAN ARMY.—Hitherto it has been the custom to incorporate young criminals in the army, as a punishment. That practice naturally threw discredit on the uniform, and the Emperor of Russia has recently issued a ukase abolishing incorporation in the army as a punishment, except for offences committed through thoughtlessness or passion.

LAW AND CRIME.

ONE of the most reasonable expectations that can be based upon the anticipated legal decision of a pending dispute is perhaps that, rightly or wrongly, the matter shall thereafter be set at rest, and that the supposed right in question shall be clearly and definitively settled, one way or another, as a point of fact. It seems possible, however, that there may be exceptional cases in which even this moderate faith in the operation of the law may chance to be disappointed. A recent trial in the Divorce Court, having been adjudicated upon by the Judges, is so terminated as to leave a lady, the principal party therein, in the distressing position we are about to describe. In the British dominions that lady is named Madame Malac, and is the wife of a certain M. Malac, a French person of unenviable repute. In France and its dependencies the same lady is a Mdle. Simonin, spinster. The facts leading to this extraordinary arrangement are as follow. In 1854 Mdle. Simonin, then a favourite French actress, was courted by a M. Malac, who prevailed upon her to take a trip to England with him in order that he might marry her without the consent of his relations. Such consent would have been necessary by the French law, and perhaps M. Malac had reason to believe that it might be withheld from him in his contract with the actress. The parties came to England, where, by means of perjury, M. Malac obtained a licence and married the lady. Mdle. Simonin, whose affection for the bridegroom appears to have been tempered by an unusually large share of prudence, nevertheless declined to live with him as his wife until the necessary ceremonies had been gone through in France. They returned to Paris, where M. Malac, after a week's futile solicitations, abandoned the trap which he had set for such a particularly wary young lady. He then cast off all disguise, and after leaving her, wrote to her to tell her of his disinclination to fulfil his promises. "I have broken my word. Love and respect me," were the concluding words of his epistle, and illustrate the character of M. Malac vividly enough. Mdle. Simonin applied to the French Court, which declared the marriage null and void, having been contemplated in evasion of the law and carried out by fraud and falsehood. Mdle. Simonin returned to her profession, in which, after a period, M. Malac habituated himself to adopting the course of publicly insulting and humiliating her as a revenge for her escape. The lady returned to England and set up in business in London. Having become naturalised as an English subject she applied to Sir Cresswell Cresswell to set aside the English marriage with respect to this country, as it had already been set aside in France. Sir C. Cresswell declines to do so, and dismisses her petition on the ground that as she has been married in England, according to English law, that marriage can not be interfered with, in consequence of its being in opposition to the laws of any other country. "This country," said the learned Judge, "was not bound by any international law to surrender its laws to that of any other State." The result is that which we have already described with respect to the lady's position in France and England respectively. In no other country can any living person or any legal court, however constituted, decide whether the lady be Mdle. Simonin or Mdme. Malac, except as a matter of favour. This is not only hard upon the lady but is not creditable to the laws of England, especially as that law has within the last few years, upon precisely the same grounds as those taken by the French Court, declared ladies to be illegally living with their supposed husbands, and decided whole families to be illegitimate when the persons contracting the supposed marriage (between the husband and the sister of a deceased wife) have left England to marry in a country where such a marriage was held lawful.

A lodging-house keeper having advertised to let certain apartments which the tenant then in occupation was about to leave, was applied to to exhibit the rooms to a person who proved himself dishonest by carrying off valuable property belonging to the lodger. The lodger hereupon sued the landlord for having occasioned the loss by neglect of the proper care which a prudent owner should have exercised. The landlord, as defendant, demurred to this charge as disclosing no legal ground of action. The legal issue thus raised was argued on Monday last, in Banco, before the Common Pleas Judges. The Lord Chief Justice gave judgment for the defendant, drawing a distinction between the cases of the keeper of an inn and the landlord of apartments with respect to robberies of the property of lodgers. His Lordship said that the Judges distinctly laid it down that a landlord was not liable for the goods of a mere lodger, even if stolen by one of his (the landlord's) own family. The lodger should have put valuable property out of the way before he allowed the rooms to be shown.

A bankrupt named Waldon, formerly a grocer at Peterborough, was prosecuted by his assignees for not having surrendered to his bankruptcy, and for having fraudulently obtained goods within three months previous to his failure. He was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment. Mr. Lawrence, solicitor for the assignees, then applied to Mr. Commissioner Fane for an order directing payment of the costs of the prosecution out of the proceeds of the estate. The Commissioner declined to grant the order, and Mr. Lawrence said he should appeal. The Commissioner then said he did not think he ordered the prosecution. Mr. Lawrence reminded him that he had done so in two instances, for the two separate offences above named. "If I made the order," said the Commissioner, "I must have some note or memorandum in my book concerning it, and my book is not here to-day. It has been taken to my house for another purpose." He afterwards added, "I am pretty confident I made no entry in my book," and on being informed that he had signed the order, charged Mr. Lawrence with "procuring" his signature, and declared that he could not tell the precise language of every order put before him. He denied that the facts had been laid before him, after Mr. Lawrence's assertion that such had been the case; and thrice returned for answer "I sha'n't" to Mr. Lawrence's repeated appeals for allowance of the costs of the prosecution. This undignified scene, during which the Commissioner was continually contradicting Mr. Lawrence, and Mr. Lawrence as often respectfully contradicting the Commissioner, was at length terminated by an endorsement upon the proposed order of the refusal of the Court to allow the costs as required.

A trustee of a friendly society was convicted of appropriating to his own use a sum of £40, which was alleged in the indictment to be the property of the treasurer of such society. The Act 10, Geo. 4, cap. 56, vests the property of the society in the treasurer. The prisoner appealed against the conviction, on the ground that a subsequent Act, 7 and 8 Vic., cap. 63, vested the funds in the "trustee or trustees." The result was that the conviction was quashed.

Two sharpers confederated to swindle a countryman at a public-house, by means of a conjuror's trick. One of them placed a pen on the table and left the room to fetch some ink, in order to write a letter. His confederate opened the pen-case, removed a pen from it, and put a pin into its place. He then persuaded the dupe to bet £2 10s. with the owner upon his return that the pen was not in the case. The bet was made and the case opened, when both a pen and the pin were found within it. The rogues then took the money. The confederates were given into custody, convicted of fraud and conspiracy, and sentenced to eight months' imprisonment. Their counsel appealed against the conviction, stating that the prosecutor, in endeavouring to cheat another, had been himself taken in, and that the affair was a mere bet on a sleight-of-hand trick. The Court of Exchequer decided that the conviction was good, nevertheless, as the law was framed to protect dishonest and the stupid equally with other people.

A gentleman was robbed of his watch in a crowd, and the thief pawned it two hours afterwards. He was discovered, and committed to trial for the offence. The prosecutor and the pawnbroker applied to the magistrate, Mr. Selfe, for their expenses in attending to prosecute. Mr. Selfe informed them that he had only power to award them 7d. each, and both the witnesses declined to accept that amount, which Mr. Selfe denominated a "miserable cheese-paring."

Mrs. Stone, wife of a Mr. Stone, clerk in the India House, applied to the Divorce Court for a judicial separation from her husband on the ground of cruelty. The acts charged were, among others, that the husband had beaten his wife, kicked her, bitten her mouth till it bled, and pulled her nose violently, threatening to wring it off. The defendant admitted having boxed her ears and wrung her nose "under

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ELEGANTLY ENGRAVED and 100 Superior CARDS PRINTED
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DRESSING-CASES, TRAVELLING DRESSING-BAGS,
DESPATCH-BOXES, Writing-cases, Jewel-cases, LADIES'
RETICULE and CARRIAGE BAGS, MEDIEVAL MOUNTED
ENVELOPE CASES, BLOTTING BOOKS and INKSTANDS en-
suite; the NEW PATENT SELF CLOSING BOOK-SLIDE; also
a choice variety of ELEGANCES and NOVELTIES, suitable for
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Patterns free by post.
THE NEWEST and MOST FASHIONABLE DESIGNS.
PARKINS and GOTTOS, 24 and 25, OXFORD-STREET.

MAPPINS' DRESSING-CASES and
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FENDERS, STOVES, FIRE-IRONS, and
CHIMNEYPIECES.—Buyers of the above are requested,
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SHOWROOMS. They contain such an assortment of Fenders,
Stoves, Ranges, Chimney-pieces, Fire-irons, and General Iron-
mongery as cannot be approached elsewhere, either for variety,
correctly, beauty of design, or exactness of workmanship,
with stove and ornamental mantels and two sets of bars,
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ornaments, £1 15s. to £18; chimney-pieces, from £1 8s. to £80; fire-irons, from
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DAPIER MACHE and IRON TEA-TRAYS.
An Assortment of Tea-Trays and Waiters wholly unprece-
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WILLIAM S. BURTON'S, 67 and 68, King William-street, London-
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New Oval Papier Mache Trays, per set
of three..... from 20s. to 10 guineas.
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Round and Gothic Waiters, Cake and Bread Baskets, equally low.

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Tea Trays, Clocks, Table Cutlery, Baths and Toilet Ware, Turnery,
Iron and Brass Bedsteads, Bedding, Bedroom Furniture, &c.;
with Lists of Prices and Descriptions of the Showrooms, at
32, Oxford-street, W.; 1, 1A, 2, and 3, Newman-street; and 4, 5,
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COMMERCIAL TREATY WITH FRANCE.
REDUCTION IN PRICE OF NEW SPRING SILKS.
JAMES SPENCE and CO., 77 and 78, St.
Paul's-churchyard, beg to state that, in consequence of the
proposed ABOLITION OF DUTY on French Silks, and the com-
petition already begun to be exhibited in the HOME MARKETS,
they have succeeded in securing several large lots of NEW
SPRING SILKS, at 6d., 9d., and 1s. per yard UNDER THE
REGULAR PRICES.

No. 1. Fancy Checks, 2s. the Dress, ALL
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ALL
WIDE WIDTH.
Also, Rich Moire Antiques, from 5s. to Six Guineas; Flounced
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Patterns sent post-free.
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TO DRAPERS, MILLINERS,
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MATCHING ORDERS carefully and promptly attended to.
CUT LENGTHS at the lowest Prices.
FOREIGN FABRICS imported direct with all the advantages of
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Shut on Saturdays at Five o'clock.

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Ladies should see the NEW MANTLES at D. NICHOLSON
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Fourteen beautiful Engravings post-free.

DO YOU WISH YOUR CHILDREN WELL
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BOYS' DRESSES FOR SCHOOL OR
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THE KNICKERBOCKER SUIT, complete, from 15s.
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Comprising either an elegant Suit, or a Trousers, or a Jacket,
or a Trousers, made in all the new Melton and Heather
styles, adapted to the season, and allowed to be the prettiest and
most serviceable costume ever introduced for Boys.
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Complete Suits for Children of every age and of any part of
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THE FASHIONABLE SHAWL OF PARIS.
Cashmere Shawls, trimmed with real Lace Flounces, most
appropriate for the present season, combining style with elegance
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REAL SPANISH MANTILLAS, 6s. guineas.
IMITATION DITTO, 5s. 6d. at
A. BLACKBURN'S SPANISH BRUXELLES DEPOT,
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ENORMOUS PREPARATIONS for the
LONDON SEASON—Shawls, Cloaks, and Silks at greatly
reduced prices, owing to the total abolition of all Duties upon India,
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now prepared with their New Designs for the Season, and solicit
attention to their rich and varied variety of Paris and London Fashions,
171, 173, Regent-st., W.—India Shawls Bought and Exchanged.

2s. 6d. LADIES' 12s. 9d. GENTLEMEN'S !!!
Very Best PARIS KID GLOVES.
1 guinea the dozen best Grenoble Kid, or 2s. per pair.
The best Alpaca Kid, 1s. 6d. A sample sent for two extra stamps
BAKER and CRISP, 221, Regent-street (entrance Maddox-street).

MUSLINS.—PATTERNS POST-FREE !!!
All the New Colours.
Fine French Organzies .. from 3s. 6d. Full Dress.
Flounced Ditto 7s. 6d. ..
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Striped, Checked, and Chene .. 5s. 6d. Full Dress.
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Bazarinos (Printed) 5s. 6d. ..
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Best French 8s. 9d. Full Dress.
Flounced 16s. 9d. ..
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ROYAL COURT MOIRE ANTIQUE !!!
2 guineas, worth £1.
Colours:
Pink, white, Black, Mauve,
Brown, Waterloo, Sky, Drab, Acajou, &c., &c.
BAKER and CRISP, 221, Regent-street.

BLACK SILKS.—Of Extraordinary Brightness
and Durability.
BAKER and CRISP are now prepared to give their Customers
the Best, Brightest, and most
Durable
Black Glace Silk in the kingdom for
2 guineas.
Patterns sent post-free.
Also, a Lot at 25s. 6d. to 35s. 6d.—221, Regent-street.

BLACK GRENADINES! that will not tear,
and Barages that will not split, all of the
Fastest Dye, 8s. 9d. the Dress.
Also, Balzaines, Barathas, Cachemere, &c., &c.
from 6d. yard. Patterns post-free. Mohairs as usual.
The largest and cheapest lot in the Kingdom.
BAKER and CRISP, Regent-street (entrance Maddox-street).

JACKETS.—ZOUAVE VESTS !!!
and Jackets Complete,
in Muslin, elegantly trimmed, Ribbon and Lace, 16s. 6d.
The Muslin Jacket, known as our Jacket, with
Lace Epauettes, 10s. 6d.
BAKER and CRISP (corner of Maddox-street, Regent-street).

ANOTHER LOT !!! 1800 DOZEN.
About 60 days have elapsed since we purchased
the last lot at the Customs,
which were sold directly, and many Customers disappointed,
that we could not repeat their orders. We shall sell them before.
Fine French Cambric Handkerchiefs, that were 1, 2, and 3 guineas
the dozen, will be sold for 10s. 6d., 15s., and 20s.
Patterns post-free.
BAKER and CRISP, 221, Regent-street, W.

FRENCH FOULARD SILKS, 15s. 6d. !!!
worth 33s.
Patterns post-free.
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READY-MADE DRESSES !!!
Engravings
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FORD'S SELECT MANTLES.—The ROYAL
BRUNSWICK, a new full-skirted Mantle of rich French
Glacé, beautifully trimmed, having a hand-ome shoulder-piece of
novel construction, with ornaments pendant. A most ladylike
and graceful pattern. Price 4 guineas; in Lyons Velvet, 7 guineas.
Duty free. Illustrations post-free.

FORD'S SELECT MANTLES are the most
elegant designs. Ladies are invited to inspect a beautiful
assortment made in Silk Velvet, Cloth, &c., at moderate prices,
commencing at 1 guinea.

FORD'S SELECT MANTLES of rich French
Glacé, with the new Straw Trimmings and other novel
ornaments, announce a total change of fashion. Price 3, 4, and 5
guineas. Duty free. Illustrations free.

FORD'S SELECT MANTLES.—Graceful
Shapes in all qualities. Rich ribbed Silk Paletots from
1 guinea. Glacé Silk Mantles, with sleeves and full skirts, extremely
handsome, 2 guineas. Illustrations free.

FORD'S SELECT MANTLES in Waterproof
Cloth of all Colours, for travelling or ordinary wear. Price
1 guinea. Young Ladies' Mantles, 10s. 6d. Last year's patterns at
half the cost price.
T. FORD, Mantle Rooms, 42, Oxford-street, London, W.

FORD'S ZOUAVE JACKETS for Dinner or
Evening Dress, of Glacé Silk or Cachemere, embroidered
with gold, worn open from the throat to a Zouave, displaying a
White Silk or Muslin Vest underneath. Price 21s. Illustrations
free.

FORD'S ZOUAVE JACKETS, beautifully fitting
and elegantly embroidered. Superfine Cloth, black or colours,
with military braiding. 21s. Directions for self-measurement
post-free. T. FORD's Mantle Rooms, 42, Oxford-street.

FORD'S ZOUAVE JACKETS, in Lyons
Velvet, black as well as every colour, lined throughout, 42s.,
62s., and 82s. All sizes ready. Choice as infinitum. Cachemere
Jackets, beautifully braided, 21s.

FORD'S ZOUAVE JACKETS, in Muslin and
Lace, with novel and beautiful trimmings. Price 21s.
Ford's ZOUAVE MAROQUELLE JACKETS, White or Buff, with
Vest, complete, 1 guinea. Illustrations free.

FORD'S ZOUAVE JACKETS, for Morning
Wear, of mixed fabrics, braided in scroll and pine patterns,
made with Vest to match, from 25s. Patterns and illustrations
free.—THOS. FORD, Mantle Rooms, 42, Oxford-street, London, W.

FORD'S ZOUAVE JACKETS.—Ladies who are
desirous of obtaining Jackets of choice and elegant styles,
and distinguished for superior quality, are invited to
inspect an immense assortment of beautiful patterns, made in
various materials, and kept ready in all sizes. Illustrations and
directions for self-measurement, perfectly plain and simple, post-
free.—THOS. FORD, Mantle Rooms, 42, Oxford-street, London, W.

MAY THE FIFTH and FOLLOWING DAYS
will be offered, at nearly half price, MANUFACTURER'S
STOCK of Spring and Summer SILKS (just bought for prompt
cash), and will be sold, owing to the backwardness of the season,
at the undermentioned Prices:—
20,000 yds of New Fancy Silks, various (wide width), 11s. 11d. per yd
18,000 do do 2s. 11d.
With about 20,000 Dresses of rich, cheap, Crossbar, Cannelle, and
Rayardes Ditto, &c., &c., now selling at 35s. 6d., 42s. 6d., and
21 guineas.
Elegant and Useful Flounced Silk Robes, at a considerable
reduction from last month's prices.
Please be particular in addressing
BEECH and BERRALL,
(The Beehive),
63 and 64, Edgeware-road, London, W.
N.B.—Just received! A Case of Foreign Black Glacé Silks, wide
width, 2s. 11s. 6d. per yard; usual price, 3s. 6d.

SPRING SEASON, 1860.—Ladies are
respectfully invited to inspect the distinguished and elegant
collection of NOVELTIES for the present season
comprising:—
RICH SILK ROBES in Moire Antique, Broche, Chine, and other
ALL THE NEW COLOURS IN PLAIN, CHECKED, and STRIPED
GLACES for YOUNG LADIES' WEAR.
The principal NOVELTIES in CLOAKS and MANTLES, as pro-
duced in Paris, in GLACÉ SILK, PLAIN and FANCY CLOTHS,
WOVE, LYONS, and PAISLEY, CASIMERE SHAWLS, CHINA
CRAPE, GRENADINE, &c.
MORNING and CARRIAGE DRESSES in MOHAIRS and
FANCY FABRICS trimmed, and with Jacket complete.
Printed MUSLINS and BAREGES (two, five, seven, and nine
ounces), combining every novelty in elegant designs.
RIBBONS, DRESS and MANTLE TRIMMINGS, including the
new Louis Quatorze style of Buttons.
LACES, IMBROIDERIES, GLOVES, HOSIERY, and FANCY
GOODS of every description.

IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE NEW TARIFF A REDUCTION
TO THE FULL AMOUNT OF DUTY IS TAKEN OFF ALL
FRENCH GOODS.
SOWERBY TATTON, and Co., 274, 276, Regent-circus, and 111, 112,
Oxford-street.

MOIRE, 2, 3, 4, CHEMINS.
MESSRS. JAY have received from Lyons some
beautiful specimens of these New Silks.
THE LONDON GENERAL MOURNING WAREHOUSE,
247, 249, 251, Regent-street.
JAY'S

NEW MANTLES.
MESSRS. JAY
have the honour to announce that they have received their
NEW MANTLES FROM PARIS.
The patterns having been copied, the Original Models will be
sold much under cost price.
JAY'S.

BLACK GLACE SILKS.
REDUCTION IN THE PRICES OF SILKS, &c.—Pur-
chasers of Silks at Messrs. JAY'S will find a GREAT REDUC-
TION from the former prices of their FRENCH SILKS.
The following articles also benefit by the said reduction:—
JAY'S MOURNING MILLINERY, JAY'S HALF MOURNING DEPARTMENT,
JAY'S MANTLE DEPARTMENT.
THE LONDON GENERAL MOURNING WAREHOUSE,
247, 249, and 251, Regent-street.
JAY'S.

PETER ROBINSON'S
NEW
SPRING DRESSES.
Patterns post-free.
Now ready, a great variety of New Fabrics
suitable for
THE PRESENT and APPROACHING SEASON.
"THE JASPER DROGUET,"
A most distinguishing novelty,
£1 6s. 9d. the Extra Full Dress.
THE NEW SILK CHALLIES,
16s. 9d., 18s. 9d., and 21s. the Full Dress.
SILK POULINETTES (IN BRILLIANT COLOURS),
£1 9s. 6d. the Full Dress.
An immense assortment of WASHINGTON MOHAIRS,
8s. 9d., 11s. 9d., 12s. 6d., and 14s. 9d. the Full Dress.
FULL FLOUNCED DOUBLE MOHAIRS,
(20 yards), 16s. 9d., the Robe trimming included.
103, 105, 106, 107, 108, Oxford-street, W.

SPECIAL !!!
SEVERAL HUNDRED
RICH FLOUNCED BAREGE ROBES,
suitable for Dinner, Evening, or Summer Wear,
(20 to 22 yards each), 18s. 9d., the Robe trimming included,
Worth from 14 to 2 guineas.
A great variety of patterns sent for selection, post-free.

1000 PIECES PURE MOHAIR,
8s. 9d. and 9s. 9d. Full Dress, worth 14s. 6d.
PETER ROBINSON, 103, 105, 106, 107, 108, Oxford-street, W.

LADIES' CHENILLE NETS, 1s. 3d., 1s. 6d.,
1s. 11d., 2s. 6d., thick made, 2s. 11d. each.
With gilt Ornaments, Rings, Stars, Arrows, Acorns, &c., &c., all sold
Silk Braided Nets, 1s. 4d., all colours.
Gold and Silver Nets, 1s. 3d., with tassels, 1s. 6d.
A large assortment of Gilt Clasps for Waistbands,
1s., 1s. 6d., 2s., 3s., 4s., 5s., 6s., 7s., 8s., 9s., 10s., 11s., 12s., 13s., 14s., 15s., 16s., 17s., 18s., 19s., 20s., 21s., 22s., 23s., 24s., 25s., 26s., 27s., 28s., 29s., 30s., 31s., 32s., 33s., 34s., 35s., 36s., 37s., 38s., 39s., 40s., 41s., 42s., 43s., 44s., 45s., 46s., 47s., 48s., 49s., 50s., 51s., 52s., 53s., 54s., 55s., 56s., 57s., 58s., 59s., 60s., 61s., 62s., 63s., 64s., 65s., 66s., 67s., 68s., 69s., 70s., 71s., 72s., 73s., 74s., 75s., 76s., 77s., 78s., 79s., 80s., 81s., 82s., 83s., 84s., 85s., 86s., 87s., 88s., 89s., 90s., 91s., 92s., 93s., 94s., 95s., 96s., 97s., 98s., 99s., 100s., 101s., 102s., 103s., 104s., 105s., 106s., 107s., 108s., 109s., 110s., 111s., 112s., 113s., 114s., 115s., 116s., 117s., 118s., 119s., 120s., 121s., 122s., 123s., 124s., 125s., 126s., 127s., 128s., 129s., 130s., 131s., 132s., 133s., 134s., 135s., 136s., 137s., 138s., 139s., 140s., 141s., 142s., 143s., 144s., 145s., 146s., 147s., 148s., 149s., 150s., 151s., 152s., 153s., 154s., 155s., 156s., 157s., 158s., 159s., 160s., 161s., 162s., 163s., 164s., 165s., 166s., 167s., 168s., 169s., 170s., 171s., 172s., 173s., 174s., 175s., 176s., 177s., 178s., 179s., 180s., 181s., 182s., 183s., 184s., 185s., 186s., 187s., 188s., 189s., 190s., 191s., 192s., 193s., 194s., 195s., 196s., 197s., 198s., 199s., 200s., 201s., 202s., 203s., 204s., 205s., 206s., 207s., 208s., 209s., 210s., 211s., 212s., 213s., 214s., 215s., 216s., 217s., 218s., 219s., 220s., 221s., 222s., 223s., 224s., 225s., 226s., 227s., 228s., 229s., 230s., 231s., 232s., 233s., 234s., 235s., 236s., 237s., 238s., 239s., 240s., 241s., 242s., 243s., 244s., 245s., 246s., 247s., 248s., 249s., 250s., 251s., 252s., 253s., 254s., 255s., 256s., 257s., 258s., 259s., 260s., 261s., 262s., 263s., 264s., 265s., 266s., 267s., 268s., 269s., 270s., 271s., 272s., 273s., 274s., 275s., 276s., 277s., 278s., 279s., 280s., 281s., 282s., 283s., 284s., 285s., 286s., 287s., 288s., 289s., 290s., 291s., 292s., 293s., 294s., 295s., 296s., 297s., 298s., 299s., 300s., 301s., 302s., 303s., 304s., 305s., 306s., 307s., 308s., 309s., 310s., 311s., 312s., 313s., 314s., 315s., 316s., 317s., 318s., 319s., 320s., 321s., 322s., 323s., 324s., 325s., 326s., 327s., 328s., 329s., 330s., 331s., 332s., 333s., 334s., 335s., 336s., 337s., 338s., 339s., 340s., 341s., 342s., 343s., 344s., 345s., 346s., 347s., 348s., 349s., 350s., 351s., 352s., 353s., 354s., 355s., 356s., 357s., 358s., 359s., 360s., 361s., 362s., 363s., 364s., 365s., 366s., 367s., 368s., 369s., 370s., 371s., 372s., 373s., 374s., 375s., 376s., 377s., 378s., 379s., 380s., 381s., 382s., 383s., 384s., 385s., 386s., 387s., 388s., 389s., 390s., 391s., 392s., 393s., 394s., 395s., 396s., 397s., 398s., 399s., 400s., 401s., 402s., 403s., 404s., 405s., 406s., 407s., 408s., 409s., 410s., 411s., 412s., 413s., 414s., 415s., 416s., 417s., 418s., 419s., 420s., 421s., 422s., 423s., 424s., 425s., 426s., 427s., 428s., 429s., 430s., 431s., 432s., 433s., 434s., 435s., 436s., 437s., 438s., 439s., 440s., 441s., 442s., 443s., 444s., 445s., 446s., 447s., 448s., 449s., 450s., 451s., 452s., 453s., 454s., 455s., 456s., 457s., 458s., 459s., 460s., 461s., 462s., 463s., 464s., 465s., 466s., 467s., 468s., 469s., 470s., 471s., 472s., 473s., 474s., 475s., 476s., 477s., 478s., 479s., 480s., 481s., 482s., 483s., 484s., 485s., 486s., 487s., 488s., 489s., 490s., 491s., 492s., 493s., 494s., 495s., 496s., 497s., 498s., 499s., 500s., 501s., 502s., 503s., 504s., 505s., 506s., 507s., 508s., 509s., 510s., 511s., 512s., 513s., 514s., 515s., 516s., 517s., 518s., 519s., 520s., 521s., 522s., 523s., 524s., 525s., 526s., 527s., 528s., 529s., 530s., 531s., 532s., 533s., 534s., 535s., 536s., 537s., 538s., 539s., 540s., 541s., 542s., 543s., 544s., 545s., 546s., 547s., 548s., 549s., 550s., 551s., 552s., 553s., 554s., 555s., 556s., 557s., 558s., 559s., 560s., 561s., 562s., 563s., 564s., 565s., 566s., 567s., 568s., 569s., 570s., 571s., 572s., 573s., 574s., 575s., 576s., 577s., 578s., 579s., 580s., 581s., 582s., 583s., 584s., 585s., 586s., 587s., 588s., 589s., 590s., 591s., 592s., 593s., 594s., 595s., 596s., 597s., 598s., 599s., 600s., 601s., 602s., 603s., 604s., 605s., 606s., 607s., 608s., 609s., 610s., 611s., 612s., 613s., 614s., 615s., 616s., 617s., 618s., 619s., 620s., 621s., 622s., 623s., 624s., 625s., 626s., 627s., 628s., 629s., 630s., 631s., 632s., 633s., 634s., 635s., 636s., 637s., 638s., 639s., 640s., 641s., 642s., 643s., 644s., 645s., 646s., 647s., 648s., 649s., 650s., 651s., 652s., 653s., 654s., 655s., 656s., 657s., 658s., 659s., 660s., 661s., 662s., 663s., 664s., 665s., 666s., 667s., 668s., 669s., 670s., 671s., 672s., 673s., 674s., 675s., 676s., 677s., 678s., 679s., 680s., 681s., 682s., 683s., 684s., 685s., 686s.,